

Naomi Judd dies at 76

Singer slated to be inducted into Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday. **News, Page 9**

Abortion bill passes

Biggest update to state abortion laws in 30 years goes to governor. **Sunday CT, Page 1**

Celtics gear up for Bucks

Open East semifinals against defending champs Sunday in Boston. **Sports, Page 1**

Sunny and warm



Mostly sunny skies with a high of 72. **Sports, Page 8**

Hartford Courant



VOLUME CLXXXVI

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SUNDAY, MAY 1, 2022

Where will state's nuclear waste go?

Storage a key question as Connecticut pushes toward a greener future

By Edmund H. Mahony

Hartford Courant

The federal government is jump-starting its long-stalled search for a place to store the tons of spent nuclear fuel piling up in Connecticut and other states amid a growing realization that an expansion of nuclear power generation will be a factor in any future green energy program.

The U.S. Department of Energy is reviewing responses to a request for information it issued to nuclear industry stakeholders late last year as a first step in another attempt to resolve one of the thorniest challenges of the nuclear age: how and where to store the highly radioactive spent uranium that is the waste product of nuclear energy production.

The country's inability to figure out what to do with waste stockpiles has become an impediment for nuclear-generating states like Connecticut, as they move away from fossil fuels and toward

zero-carbon electricity production. Government and industry experts doubt renewables such as wind and solar power can meet state or national electric needs. That has the power industry and private capital looking toward the development of a new generation of smaller, safer, more efficient nuclear reactors — reactors that will continue to produce waste that needs to be disposed of somewhere safe.

The state legislature this session approved a bill requiring all electric

Turn to Waste, Page 4

RIGHT: Spent fuel from the Connecticut Yankee plant is stored in steel and concrete casks, hidden by ridgelines that form Haddam Neck in the lower Connecticut River valley. Operators of the decommissioned plant have had to store and secure radioactive material for decades due to the lack of a national disposal site. **CONNECTICUT YANKEE**



Men who described themselves as "patriots," left, stood behind the crowd at a Black Lives Matter rally Saturday at the Capitol. Several BLM members approached. After a few tense moments, they talked and parted amicably. **SEAN PATRICK FOWLER PHOTOS/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT**

RALLIES SHARE STAGE AT CAPITOL

BLM protests racism; 'Freedom' crowd speaks against Biden, vaccine rules

By Don Stacom | Hartford Courant

With only a few moments of fairly mild tension, Black Lives Matter and Connecticut Freedom held overlapping rallies Saturday at the state Capitol.

There were unmistakable undertones of contention between the two small groups, but no fights and several harmonious situations — including about three minutes where Connecticut Freedom protesters took up the BLM chant of "end hate across the state."

Concerns that a KKK-affiliated group would show up slowly dissolved when the Connecticut Freedom protesters' impromptu parade around the Capitol grounds featured only banners supporting former President Donald Trump, Thin Blue Line flags and numerous placards profanely condemning

Turn to Rallies, Page 4



Ivelisse Correa of Black Lives Matter 860 talks with a man who was boozing the BLM rally Saturday afternoon at the Capitol in Hartford.

Future hazy for women's college

Long-anticipated sale of old Hartford campus provides few clues

By Kenneth R. Gosselin
Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — For the first time in three decades, the former Hartford College for Women campus in Hartford's West End has a new owner, but future plans for the property remain largely unknown.

Some renovations of residential buildings on the 10.5-acre site on Asylum Avenue are expected, with the new owner, Great Neck, N.Y.-based Hartford Gardens LLC examining future — and, as yet, undisclosed — redevelopment options.

The city of Hartford has not been contacted by the new owner — its principals including Boston Holding LLC and William Goodman, both of Great Neck, according to state records. Goodman could not be reached for comment, despite repeated attempts.

The University of Hartford, which has owned the property since the early 1990s, sold the campus to Hartford Gardens for \$1 million in March, according to city land and assessor records. The property was known as the university Asylum Avenue campus, the university's main campus less than two miles away in neighboring West Hartford.

Hartford Mayor Luke Bronin said he sees the first priority for the campus as attracting investment that will "preserve and protect and bring back to life the beautiful historic buildings on the campus."

Three historic structures — the largest being the Georgian Revival-style Butterworth Hall — date to the early 1900s and are part of the Prospect Avenue Historic District that is registered with the National Register of Historic Places.

Turn to Campus, Page 2

WAR IN UKRAINE

Pleas made for evacuation of Mariupol plant

Russia says 19 adults and 6 children brought out of steel works

By Mstyslav Chernov and Yesica Fisch
Associated Press

KHARKIV, Ukraine — Ukrainian forces fought village by village Saturday to hold back

a Russian advance through the country's east, while the United Nations worked to broker a civilian evacuation from the last defensive stronghold in the bombed-out ruins of the port city of Mariupol.

An estimated 100,000 civilians remain in the city, and up to 1,000 are living beneath a sprawling Soviet-era steel plant, according to Ukrainian officials. Ukraine has not said how many fighters are also

in the plant, the only part of Mariupol not occupied by Russian forces, but Russia put the number at about 2,000.

Russian state media outlets reported Saturday that 25 civilians had been evacuated from the Azovstal steelworks, though there was no confirmation from the U.N. Russia's RIA Novosti news agency said 19 adults and six children were brought out, but gave no further

details.

A top official with the Azov Regiment, the Ukrainian unit defending the plant, said 20 civilians were evacuated during a cease-fire, though it was not clear if he was referring to the same group as the Russian news reports.

"These are women and children," Sviatoslav Palamar said in a video posted on the regiment's Telegram channel. He also called

for the evacuation of the wounded: "We don't know why they are not taken away and their evacuation to the territory controlled by Ukraine is not being discussed."

Video and images from inside the plant, shared with The Associated Press by two Ukrainian women who said their husbands are among the fighters refusing to

Turn to Ukraine, Page 2

'Heart in a Box' a second chance

A little more than a week after heart transplant surgery, Ram Devkota, 31, says he is born anew, the beneficiary of technology that has widened the window on life for him and many others with cardiac disease. **SUNDAY CT, PAGE 1**

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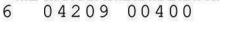
Success.....**Sunday CT, 4-5**

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FROM PAGE ONE

Ukraine

from Page 1

surrender there, showed unidentified men with stained bandages; others had open wounds or amputated limbs.

A skeleton medical staff was treating at least 600 wounded people, said the women, who identified their husbands as members of the Azov Regiment of Ukraine's National Guard. Some of the wounds were rotting with gangrene, they said.

In the video the men said that they eat just once daily and share as little as 50 ounces of water a day among four people, and that supplies inside the besieged facility are depleted.

One shirtless man appeared to be in pain as he described his wounds: two broken ribs, a punctured lung and a dislocated arm that "was hanging on the flesh."

AP could not independently verify the date and location of the video, which the women said was taken in the last week in the maze of corridors and bunkers beneath the plant.

Meanwhile, two buses sent to evacuate residents from the eastern town of Popasna were fired upon, and contact with the organizers was lost, Mayor Nikolai Khanatov said: "We know that (the buses) reached the town and then came under fire from an enemy sabotage and reconnaissance group."



People hold banners during the demonstration in support of Mariupol defenders, on Saturday in Kyiv, Ukraine.

ALEXEY FURMAN/GETTY

Getting a full picture of the unfolding battle in eastern Ukraine has been difficult because airstrikes and artillery barrages have made it extremely dangerous for reporters to move around. Also, both Ukraine and Moscow-backed rebels have introduced

tight restrictions on reporting from the combat zone.

But Western military analysts suggested that the offensive in the Donbas region, which includes Mariupol, was going much slower than planned. So far, Russian troops and the separatists

appeared to have made only minor gains in the month since Moscow said it would focus its military strength in the east.

Numerically, Russia's military manpower vastly exceeds Ukraine's. In the days before the war began, Western intelligence

estimated Russia had positioned near the border as many as 190,000 troops; Ukraine's standing military totals about 200,000, spread throughout the country.

Yet, in part because of the tenacity of the Ukrainian resistance, the U.S. believes the Russians are "at least several days behind where they wanted to be" as they try to encircle Ukrainian troops in the east, said a senior U.S. defense official who spoke on condition of anonymity.

With plenty of firepower in reserve, Russia's offensive still could intensify. Overall the Russian army has an estimated 900,000 active-duty personnel. Russia also has a much larger air force and navy.

Mariupol officials have described dire shortages of food, water and medicine. U.N. humanitarian spokesman Saviano Abreu said the world organization was negotiating with authorities in Moscow and Kyiv, but he could not provide details of the ongoing evacuation effort "because of the complexity and fluidity of the operation."

"There is, right now, ongoing, high-level engagements with all the governments, Russia and Ukraine, to make sure that you can save civilians and support the evacuation of civilians from the plant," Abreu told AP.

He would not confirm video posted on social media purportedly showing U.N.-marked vehicles in Mariupol.

Campus

from Page 1

"I think appropriate-scale residential development is well suited to that site and a number of those buildings," Bronin said.

The campus includes 10 structures, many of which were built in the 1960s and 1970s as classroom space and are not considered to be "contributing" to the historic district.

The University of Hartford declined to comment on the future of the campus beyond a statement on its website announcing the sale.

In the statement, the university said, "Butterworth Hall will remain a centerpiece of the property ... While the specific plans for the property are to be determined, we look forward to the oppor-

tunity to continue to host Hartford College for Women alumnae reunions and other university events at Butterworth Hall."

The statement also noted that existing leases with current tenants such as the Capitol Region Education Council/Montessori Training Center Northeast and the Farmington Valley Transition Academy will be honored in the sale.

Bronin said future rehabilitation and development will help get the property back on the tax rolls.

Any future redevelopment will have to pass muster with the West End Civic Association, a neighborhood association often vocal about projects proposed for the area. At least one previous developer for the campus acknowledged it was critical to have the association's support.

Kyle Bergquist, the association's

president, said the group is "looking forward to getting to know our new neighbors, and learning more about their ideas" for the campus.

"It's a lovely property, with historic buildings and has a lot of potential," Bergquist said in a text.

String of proposals

The women's college moved to Asylum Avenue in the late 1950s. The campus was "grandfathered" into the residential neighborhood that is home to some of the city's wealthiest families. The college became part of the University of Hartford in 1991 and closed in 2003. The university continued occupying portions of the campus and leased out some of the space.

The university first put the property on the market in 2008, and a string of proposals that followed

did not pan out. Potential developers secured options as they sought approvals, but a sale was never completed.

In 2012, CREC proposed a magnet school on the property, but those plans were rejected by the city's planning and zoning commission, amid opposition from the neighborhood.

Two proposals called for the construction of graduate student housing on the property that would serve the nearby University of Connecticut Law School and other graduate schools.

One, in 2014, proposed a \$23 million project of 115 studio, one- and two-bedroom apartments in four new buildings.

The proposal encountered neighborhood opposition because the scope of the project was likely to worsen exist-

ing traffic congestion in the area, and there were no firm plans for the historic structures. There also was concern about a lack of detail on how the housing would be marketed to graduate students and, if demand was insufficient, whether the housing would be opened up to other potential tenants.

Most recently, The Children's Museum in West Hartford looked seriously at relocating to a part of the property. But the university wanted to sell the entire property, and the finances did not come together to make the museum's move to the campus possible. The neighborhood had been receptive to the idea.

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BREAKING NEWS

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LOTTERY

Saturday, April 30

PLAY3 DAY

6 5 4 WB: 9

PLAY4 DAY

9 6 9 9 WB: 4

The late numbers were not drawn in time for this edition. For results, please visit courant.com/lottery.

FRIDAY'S LATE NUMBERS

PLAY3 NIGHT

5 7 3 WB: 9

PLAY4 NIGHT

4 9 17 31 35 6 11 3 WB: 9

LUCKY FOR LIFE

8 15 20 32 39 LB: 15

LOTTO

3 18 31 34 36 40

Zero first-prize ticket(s) sold.

MEGA MILLIONS

9 11 34 49 66 MB: 15 MP: 2

Tuesday's est. Lotto jackpot: \$1 million

Tuesday's est. Mega Millions jackpot: \$57 million

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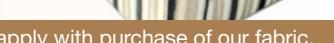


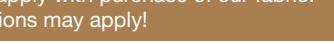










































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MAY 2022 HealthCare Heroes Month



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May 8–14 | National Skilled Nursing Care Week

May 9–15 | National Hospital Week

May 16–22 | National Emergency Services Week

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HartfordHealthCare.org

FROM PAGE ONE

Waste

from Page 1

power consumed in Connecticut to be produced from carbon-free sources by 2040. Another bill, written with smaller, better reactors in mind, is pending. It would lift a state moratorium on new nuclear power production — a moratorium enacted decades ago over the same concerns about the state's spent fuel stockpiles — but limit new production to the Millstone nuclear complex in Waterford, where Dominion Energy has what was intended to be a temporary nuclear waste storage facility.

State Sen. Norm Needleman, the Essex Democrat who chairs the legislature's Energy and Technology committee, believes nuclear power will be a component of the state's energy future, but its role will be limited until the waste issue is resolved. New nuclear production is being restricted to the Millstone complex, he said, because of its existing capability to store waste on-site.

"Disposal is absolutely an issue," Needleman said. "That is why this is limited to a site that is a going plant today where they already are dealing with that problem. I would not at this moment support any expansion until the Department of Energy finds someplace. If you are going to build nuclear power plants and you are going to be siting 200 piles of nuclear waste, it is better to have it buried 2,000 feet below ground someplace, rather than having it spread all over."

The Energy Department's request for information is part of what it calls a "consent-based process for long-term spent nuclear fuel storage." The goal is to build, in a geologically appropriate region, an excavated, underground repository with natural and engineered features that contain radioactivity. Any proposal also is likely to come with development, infrastructure and other financial incentives for the surrounding area.

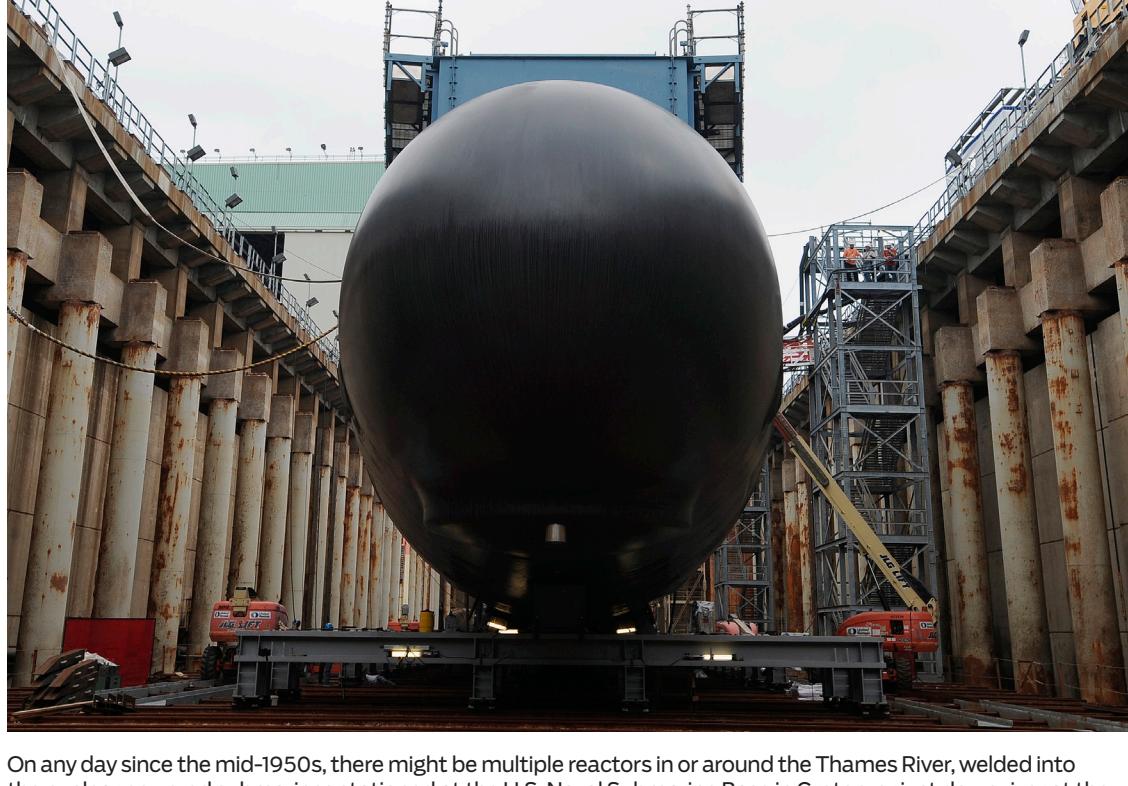
Connecticut has been living more than half a century with what was supposed to have been temporary spent fuel storage.

On any day since the mid-1950s, there might be multiple reactors in or around the Thames River, welded into the nuclear powered submarines stationed at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base in Groton, or just down river at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics where the ships are built. For years the Navy operated an experimental reactor in Windsor.

Beginning in the late 1960s, four commercial reactors produced power in Connecticut — one at the Connecticut Yankee plant on Haddam Neck, a peninsula stretching into the lower Connecticut River, and three on Millstone Point at the east end of Long Island Sound.

Two of the three Millstone reactors remain operational. Connecticut Yankee has been closed and decommissioned.

The Navy won't discuss how it disposes of its spent nuclear waste. Because the federal government has not been able to find a politically acceptable commercial disposal solution, every bit of radioactive uranium expended in the production of commercial power in Connecticut remains under guard in what are designed



On any day since the mid-1950s, there might be multiple reactors in or around the Thames River, welded into the nuclear powered submarines stationed at the U.S. Naval Submarine Base in Groton, or just down river at the Electric Boat Division of General Dynamics where the ships are built. JESSICA HILL/AP

as impregnable — but temporary — storage containers at the Millstone and Connecticut Yankee sites.

Congress began searching in 1982 for a permanent, geologically secure underground site to serve as a national repository for nuclear waste when it passed the Nuclear Waste Policy Act. The law required development of a repository by 1998 and the federal government chose Yucca Mountain, in a national security zone about 90 miles north of Las Vegas.

But, in spite of millions of dollars of investment, the Yucca repository bogged down in arguments over safety. President Barack Obama suspended the development license in 2010, President Donald J. Trump waffled on the question and President Joseph P. Biden has said he won't let the project move forward. Private, interim storage facilities proposed in Texas and New Mexico also have been blocked by political opposition.

In the meantime, as much as 90,000 metric tons of spent fuel continues to pile up and remain stranded at what were supposed to be temporary sites around the country.

On Haddam Neck, there are 43 enormous concrete and steel storage casks containing radioactive material on the site of the decommissioned Connecticut Yankee plant. At the Millstone site in Waterford, waste is divided between a storage pool and 47 storage modules. Plant operator Dominion Energy says it has the capacity to store a total of 135 modules.

The storage costs, which involve protecting the spent fuel from hazards running from terrorist attacks to natural disasters, is enormous. The cost at Connecticut Yankee is about \$10 million a year — at a plant that shut down in 1996 because it was no longer cost effective after 28 years of operation.

The federal government and, ultimately, taxpayers are picking up the cost. The law that was to make Yucca Mountain a national repository carried a provision obligating the Department of Energy to remove and store spent fuel from commercial reactors beginning in 1998. Without a repository, the

department cannot meet its obligation. Plant operators sued, and the government has been held responsible for incurred storage costs.

There are intangible costs to temporary storage, too.

Connecticut Yankee sat on a relatively undeveloped stretch of the Connecticut River, an area conservationists have long hoped to make part of a chain of wild, public spaces along the lower river. When the plant became unprofitable, it was not only decommissioned but deconstructed. Almost everything not radioactive was carted off. With the exception of some transmission lines and the structures required for storage and security, the site has been returned to near pristine condition.

In 2013, the plant owner — Connecticut Yankee is a single-asset company owned by a consortium of power companies — gave 38 acres of land to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. A spokesman said recently that Connecticut Yankee would like the remaining 544 acres to be used for "wildlife management and conservation," but it has been blocked from doing so for more than a decade. The owners are required to remain in control of the property as long as the spent fuel remains on site. Until a national disposal area is created, the former Connecticut Yankee site must remain under guard and off limits to the public.

When or even if the Connecticut Yankee site becomes public is anyone's guess, according to Haddam First Selectman Robert McGarry, a plant neighbor who has participated in regular public safety exercises at the Connecticut Yankee storage site for years as a local volunteer firefighter.

"I've joked many times that my granddaughter will be chief of the Haddam Neck Fire Department before they finally move the casks off Connecticut Yankee," he said. "And I think I was probably being an optimist."

With zero carbon now a top political issue, Democratic U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, whose eastern Connecticut district includes the naval submarine base as well as the Millstone and Connecticut

Yankee sites, hopes there might finally be movement in the fuel storage impasse. He is one of 104 U.S. House members with retired or active nuclear power plants in their districts. They have formed a Spent Nuclear Fuel Caucus, of which Courtney has become a leading voice.

For the first time in years, Courtney said Congress has shown a willingness to spend money on resolving the disposal problem. President Trump signed a spending bill that included \$20 million to start another search for a national repository, and President Biden is spending more.

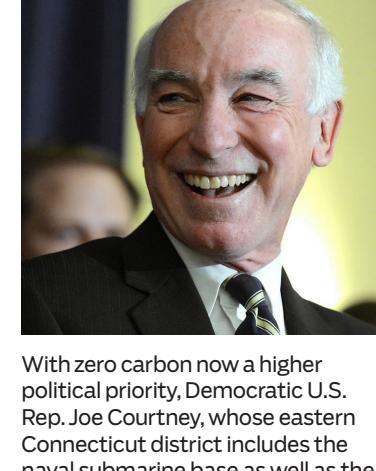
"To me, talk is cheap, but budgets matter," Courtney said. "And to the extent that they are putting real money into this process, that is good."

Some of it is being spent on the Energy Department's consent-based process for long-term spent nuclear fuel storage, the purpose of which according to Courtney is to develop new ideas for a solution. Everything is on the table, including more efficient reactors that produce less waste and permitting the reprocessing of spent fuel, something that is done in France, but was discontinued in the U.S. in the late 1970s because it results in weapons grade material.

The ultimate goal is a politically and economically acceptable national disposal site or, at least in the interim, one or more temporary regional repositories. Ideally, some geologically acceptable place in the country volunteers itself — persuaded perhaps by a rich incentive package. To demonstrate that it is not "Pollyanna-ish" to expect a community might want to host a nuclear waste dump, Courtney said there was political support for disposal sites in 2018 in remote areas of Texas and New Mexico, but the support faded after elections and changes in state leadership.

He said a consent-based approach to nuclear waste siting worked in Finland, where a private company broke ground last year for a multibillion-dollar geologic waste repository that will be dug deep into the Finnish bedrock.

"The Yucca Mountain sort



With zero carbon now a higher political priority, Democratic U.S. Rep. Joe Courtney, whose eastern Connecticut district includes the naval submarine base as well as the Millstone and Connecticut Yankee sites, hopes there might finally be movement in the fuel storage impasse. COURANT FILE PHOTO

of cul-de-sac is just not ready for any movement to happen in my lifetime," Courtney said. "So we should maybe look at what Finland did with very successful results. Maybe there are ways to connect with communities and have a process so that people will view it is safe and actually beneficial in terms of economic activity, jobs and infrastructure investment that would go with it."

The Energy Department's request for information had drawn about 225 responses in late March. During a visit to a closed California nuclear plant on April 21, Biden administration Energy Secretary Jennifer Granholm said, "Some communities have raised their hands to have these conversations," but she declined to elaborate on whether anyone has volunteered to host a repository.

Among the other responses were one from an association of southeast Connecticut towns and another from Wayne Norton, Connecticut Yankee's chief executive and an officer in the Decommissioning Plant Coalition — 12 owners of long closed nuclear plants who are being forced to remain in business for the sole purpose of spending millions of dollars to guard unwanted nuclear waste piles.

"Absent the failure of the federal government to fulfill statutory and contractual obligations, some of our member companies would have gone out of business and the sites made available for repurposing over a decade ago," Norton said.

The 22 member towns of the The Southeastern Connecticut Council of Governments expressed hope that a number of interim disposal sites can be established quickly so the Millstone storage area can convert to additional nuclear energy production.

"The use of a consent-based siting process to establish interim storage sites, and hopefully an eventual final disposal site, will allow the relocation of spent nuclear fuel from reactor sites like Millstone, enabling property at nuclear reactor plants to be more efficiently utilized toward the generation and provision of this clean energy source," the council said.

"The use of such a process will also allow for a well-planned and considered system of interim sites, which have been vetted by the host communities, and for which serious consideration of society equity and environmental justice issues has been made."

Rallies

from Page 1

President Joe Biden and coronavirus health mandates.

Despite sunny skies and temperatures in the low 60s, neither group managed to get much of a crowd. Neither BLM nor the Connecticut Freedom group had more than 75 people at any time.

The Capitol was closed to the public because state lawmakers decided against holding a session Saturday, which drew angry complaints from both groups. But Capitol and city police, who stood nearby throughout the rallies, happily announced afterward that there had been no violence or reports of related trouble.

When the BLM rally started at noon, PowerUp CT founder Keren Prescott warned the crowd to keep alert for neo-Nazis and stay calm even if they were verbally baited by counterprotesters.

"They can exercise their First Amendment right. They have every right to do that. We are not engaging," she said. "If you try to go toe-to-toe with one of these people in the Freedom Convoy, you're putting Black and brown lives at risk."

The Rev. Cornell Lewis emphasized that several armed members of the John Brown Gun Club were providing security for the rally. When three men carrying flags



Black Lives Matter activists hold a rally in front of the Capitol in Hartford on Saturday afternoon. Organizers had concerns that KKK-affiliated group would show up but none did. SEAN PATRICK FOWLER/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

took up positions on the lawn behind the rally, Lewis and several of the John Brown members approached them. The two sides held a terse conversation as Capitol police officers slowly walked toward them, but the moment passed without incident.

Two of the men with flags told

The Courant they were protesting against the policies of the Biden administration. One said he was from Bristol and the other from Ellington, but neither would give a name and referred to themselves only as "patriots."

Later, several dozen Connecticut Freedom supporters approached

the Capitol's locked front doors, then yelled insults about lawmakers who took the day off.

"They should close it permanently," one man yelled into a megaphone.

The group marched around to the back of the building and shouted chants.

One man on the Connecticut Freedom side wore a cap emblazoned with a profane insult to Biden. He declined to give his name, but said he was protesting mandatory sex education in public schools along with any remaining mask or vaccine mandates.

"We don't hate the people up there," he said, gesturing toward the BLM rally on the Capitol steps.

Carrying an American flag and wearing a flag-decorated sweatshirt, Brian Williamson, of Sarasota, Florida, said he has been part of the Freedom Convoy since March. He said he blames federal COVID-19 restrictions for hindering his father's access to doctors.

"On May 28 of 2020 my dad killed himself. He had stomach cancer. He couldn't be seen, so he shot himself," Williamson said.

Prescott and several BLM speakers said Connecticut has to do more against racism and specifically called on public school systems to treat racist chants and race-driven bullying more seriously.

Shortly before the Freedom Convoy walked past, Prescott said BLM's issues aren't restricted to people of color.

"If there are any poor white people listening, you and I have more in common than anybody who supports Trump," she said. "Poor white people are using SNAP more than people of color. You're hurting more than we are."

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WORLD & NATION

Amid sour relations, a deal struck

Behind-the-scenes work brought Reed home from Russia

By Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — The worst possible moment for bringing Trevor Reed home turned out to be the best.

With U.S.-Russian relations at their lowest point in decades, it seemed an improbable time to hope for the release of Reed, a former Marine detained in Russia for almost three years. Yet last week the Biden administration completed the type of transaction it had earlier seemed resistant to, exchanging Reed for Konstantin Yaroshenko, a Russian pilot and convicted drug trafficker serving a 20-year prison sentence in Connecticut.

A series of events and considerations in the last two months helped facilitate the swap, including escalating concerns over Reed's health, a private Oval Office meeting between his parents and President Joe Biden and a secretive Moscow trip by a former diplomat on the cusp of Russia's war with Ukraine.

"All those three forced the White House to make a decision that they hadn't made before," said Mickey Bergman, vice president at the Richardson Center for Global Engagement.

How the war — and the breakdown in U.S.-Russian relations — affected the deal isn't clear. U.S. officials stressed that the negotiations for Reed's release were narrow in scope, focused squarely on the prisoners and not on Russia's war and not reflective of any broader diplomatic engagement. But while the timing of the deal was startling, it's also clear that the groundwork for it had been laid before the conflict had begun.

"I did it," Biden told reporters Wednesday about



Trevor Reed, left, a Texas resident and ex-Marine arrested in Russia in 2019, is greeted by Rep. August Pfluger, R-Texas, on Thursday. JONATHAN FRANKS

the deal. "I raised it. I raised it three months ago."

Just as the war was about to commence, Bergman and his colleague, Bill Richardson, a former U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, flew to Moscow on the plane of FedEx chief executive Fred Smith for a meeting with Russian government officials. It was a continuation of negotiations they'd been having for the release of Reed and another jailed American, corporate security executive Paul Whelan.

They left with the contours in place for the one-for-one swap that ultimately took place.

In Texas, Joey and Paula Reed were worrying that Russia's war with Ukraine, and resulting tensions with the U.S., could close off communication channels and prevent any common

ground for negotiations.

During meetings with administration officials in the last year — including with the Justice Department, which prosecuted Yaroshenko — the couple expressed support for a swap but say they weren't led to think that was a viable option.

But weeks into the war, the couple did something that got the White House's attention.

As Biden traveled to Texas to support veterans, the Reeds stood along the motorcade route in hopes of getting meaningful face time with the president. That didn't happen, though he did speak by phone with the couple. Later that month, they arrived in Washington and stood with signs near the White House, hoping again to meet with the pres-

ident.

This time, they were invited into the Oval Office for a sit-down with Biden and other administration officials. The White House issued a statement that night reiterating its commitment to getting Reed and Whelan home, an issue that senior officials had raised in private meetings with Russian leaders.

The meeting was a rare bit of presidential access for the family of an American detainee, especially since Biden himself has been less public than his predecessor, Donald Trump, about efforts to get Americans home.

Behind the scenes, though, Biden and Secretary of State Antony Blinken were raising the cases with the Russians, and Roger Carstens, the special presidential envoy for hostage affairs, was

working on the issue as well.

Hovering in the background as well was Reed's health. In March, Reed told his parents that he'd been coughing up blood several times a day, had pain in his lung and a broken rib. Last year, he contracted COVID-19.

Those health issues also alarmed U.S. officials.

"That, I think, contributed to really ratcheting up the conversations on this issue, getting to a point where we were able to make this arrangement, getting to a point where we were able to turn to some of the logistics of simply getting it done," a senior administration official told reporters in a background briefing last week.

Separately, a lawyer for Yaroshenko has said his client also suffered from

multiple health problems, and tried unsuccessfully in 2020 to have him freed early from his 20-year prison sentence on compassionate release grounds because of the pandemic.

Left out of any deal were

Whelan, who is serving a 16-year sentence on espionage-related charges that his family says are fabricated, and Brittney Griner, a WNBA star detained in February after Russian authorities said a search of her bag revealed a cannabis derivative.

Richardson said the Biden team deserves recognition for authorizing this particular swap at a time when U.S.-Russia relations were so low.

"It doesn't matter who gets credit," Richardson said, "as long as hostages like Trevor Reed are home."

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WORLD & NATION

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Biden weighing student debt relief

Activists keep up the pressure following campaign promise

By Chris Megerian

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — For student loan activists, last week began with hope as President Joe Biden gave his clearest indication that he was considering canceling federal debt rather than simply allowing borrowers to defer payments during the COVID-19 pandemic.

But that gave way to disappointment when Biden signaled days later that any debt relief would be much less than activists wanted.

So Melissa Byrne, one of the organizers who has been leading the charge, got back to work.

First, she tweeted that activists need to "ramp up" their efforts, stay "warm + fuzzy" and "fight until we win." ("White House staff reads tweets," she explained.) Then she and her allies dove into their group chats as they considered ways to keep the pressure on.

"We need to keep our eye on the prize," Byrne said.

The flurry of activity comes in a crucial stretch, with Biden saying he would make a decision in the coming weeks. After promising to address the issue during his campaign for president, he's now weighing how much federal student loan debt should be canceled and who should benefit.

Critics caution that forgiving debt might anger voters who already paid off their loans, and Republicans describe the idea as a political giveaway in a midterm



Students put up posters calling for student loan debt forgiveness on Friday near the White House. EVAN VUCCI/AP

election year. However, an expansive approach could buoy young people whom Democrats view as a central part of their coalition, allowing Biden to deliver concrete results when many of his proposals from the left remain stalled on Capitol Hill.

John Della Volpe, director of polling at the Harvard Kennedy School Institute of Politics, said student loan forgiveness is "a cornerstone in the relationship between President Biden and young Americans."

Without young voters on board, "we don't have a Democratic House, a Democratic Senate and a

Democratic president," said Della Volpe, who worked as a consultant for Biden's campaign.

About 43 million Americans owe \$1.6 trillion on their student loans — more than either credit cards or car payments. It's a growing problem for younger people, who have assumed more debt to finance their educations when public funding for colleges has declined.

And it's a challenge that Biden has personally experienced. While running for office, he told a student in New Hampshire that he "ended up with a debt of over \$280,000" to pay for college and graduate school

for his three children.

In a poll of Americans under 30 years old conducted by the Harvard Kennedy School and released last Monday, 85% said the federal government should take some action on student loan debt.

However, opinions were split about the best path forward. Although 38% supported full cancellation, 21% wanted such a step to be taken for only those with the greatest financial needs. In addition, 27% wanted the government to help with repayment, but not debt cancellation.

It's possible that Biden's idea will include means test-

ing, which involves limiting by income who would see their debts forgiven.

During the campaign, when Biden was consolidating support in the Democratic primary, he pledged to "immediately" cancel \$10,000 in federal student loan debt per person. But he did not use his executive authority to do so once in office — whether he has such power remains the subject of debate in Washington — and Congress took no action on his promise, either.

Now Senate Majority Leader Chuck Schumer, D-N.Y., is calling for \$50,000 in debt to be canceled and

some activists want all debt wiped out without exception.

Biden's pending decision comes as he struggles to make progress on other parts of his liberal agenda that could appeal to young people, such as tackling climate change by expanding clean energy.

"We need to motivate voters and show them that Democrats are fighting for them," said Emma Lydon, who lobbies for the Progressive Change Committee. "And this is a slam dunk way to do that."

Sen. Mitt Romney, R-Utah, mocked the idea by tweeting that "desperate polls call for desperate measures." He added, "Other bribe suggestions: Forgive auto loans? Forgive credit card debt? Forgive mortgages?"

Celinda Lake, a Democratic pollster who worked with Biden's campaign, didn't see a downside to the inevitable criticism.

"The voters who are going to grouse about this, we weren't getting them anyway," she said.

However, the issue can still be controversial among Democrats, evoking raw emotions at times.

Lake noted a recent fight in a focus group in which an older woman who had paid off her debts didn't like the idea, while a middle-aged man with children was enthusiastic.

Byrne is trying to tip the scales as far as she can, and she recently plastered signs around downtown Washington along with other activists.

Byrne said activists have already scored a victory.

"Now it's about how much we can get," she said

Enrollment losses tied to pandemic hitting schools

Cuts on the board with federal relief money set to end

By Heather Hollingsworth and Annie Ma
Associated Press

MISSION, Kan. — A school system in suburban Kansas City is eliminating over 100 jobs, including kindergarten aides and library clerks. Oakland, California, is closing seven schools. Other districts around the country are merging classrooms, selling buildings and leaving teaching positions unfilled in order to close budget gaps.

Public school systems are beginning to feel the pinch from enrollment losses tied to the coronavirus pandemic.

Money for schools is driven partly by student headcounts, and emergency provisions in many states allowed schools to maintain funding at pre-pandemic levels. But like the billions of dollars of federal relief money that have helped schools weather the crisis, those measures were not meant to last forever.

In Olathe, Kansas, where the school system is cutting 140 jobs, Deputy Superin-

tendent John Hutchison said the extra federal money merely put off the inevitable.

Now it is trimming millions of dollars from its budgets because enrollment, having peaked at more than 30,000 students in fall 2019, fell by around 900 in the first full school year of the pandemic. Less than 100 of those students have returned.

"Where did those kids go?" Hutchison asked during a recent public meeting. "Where are they? They didn't come back this year. That's what's laying on that additional reduction in our funding."

Families opting for home-schooling, private schools and other options sent enrollment down sharply in the first full school year of the pandemic, and generally it has been slow to recover.

In Houston, the largest district in Texas, enrollment tumbled by more than 22,000 to around 183,000 in fall 2021 and only about half of those students have returned.

The district was shielded from making cuts in the first two years of the pandemic by what are known as "hold harmless" provisions, but those protections are expected to end. Superintendent Millard House has

asked departments to cut \$60 million from next year's budget.

Among other states that took steps to protect school budgets, Delaware provided \$9.3 million in one-time funding in the fiscal year that ended in summer 2021 to school districts and charter schools to prevent layoffs over enrollment declines, and North Carolina lawmakers decided to allow schools to use pre-pandemic attendance levels.

More districts will be making cuts in coming years, said Alex Spurrier, an associate partner at Bellwether Education Partners, a think tank. The last of the federal aid must be spent by 2024.

"Once the federal funding dries up, it will put a lot more districts in a lot more difficult position if they're kind of kicking the can down the road of making the adjustments that they'll need if they are going to be serving smaller student populations in the years to come," he said.

Some districts have struggled to explain the need for cuts. Albuquerque Public Schools announced this spring that it anticipates a budget shortfall of about \$25 million.

"That might sound crazy," the district wrote in a blog

post, acknowledging the influx of federal aid. But it explained that enrollment declines have accelerated amid the pandemic, with the student population falling to 73,000 from 85,000 in just six years. The district hasn't released a cost-cutting plan, but legislative analysts say it will require layoffs and school closures.

Amid the upheaval, some states have gained students. Florida was among the leaders, according to the data-tracking site Burbio. And some districts' headcounts benefited from new

families, including some who moved to less costly areas as work went virtual.

In California, which announced this month that enrollment had fallen by an additional 110,283 students, Oakland's planned school closures are leading to protests.

The ACLU filed a complaint this month alleging that they disproportionately affect Black students and families.

Further complicating the situation is a tight labor market and demands for teacher and staff raises.

In Minneapolis Public Schools, where a nearly three-week long teacher strike ended with a new contract, the district said it needed to make \$27.1 million in budget cuts in the upcoming school year to pay for it.

Federal relief money helped cover the \$53.5 million price tag for the more lucrative contract for teachers and support staff for the current school year.

Since the pandemic began, the district also has lost more than 4,000 students, along with the state funding they generate.



The House voted in 2021 to hold Mark Meadows, former President Trump's chief of staff, in criminal contempt. JEFFREY COLLINS/AP

Meadows says Jan. 6 committee made efforts to 'vilify' him

By Eric Tucker
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Former Trump White House chief of staff Mark Meadows accused the congressional committee investigating last year's attack on the U.S. Capitol of leaking all of the text messages he provided to the panel in what he says was an effort to vilify him publicly.

The argument was made in a filing Friday in Washington's federal court, where

Meadows sued in December to invalidate subpoenas issued to him for his testimony and to Verizon for his cellphone records.

In the latest filing, lawyers for Meadows asked a judge to reject the committee's request for an expedited ruling in its favor that would force Meadows to comply with the subpoenas. The committee requested an expedited briefing schedule Wednesday after filing its motion the previous week.

The lawyers say Meadows

deserves a chance through the fact-gathering process to take depositions and gather other information relevant to questions that are in dispute, such as the committee's claims that former President Donald Trump did not invoke executive privilege over the items subpoenaed by the panel.

The House voted in December to hold Meadows in criminal contempt after he ceased cooperating, referring the matter to the Justice Department, which

has not said whether it will take action.

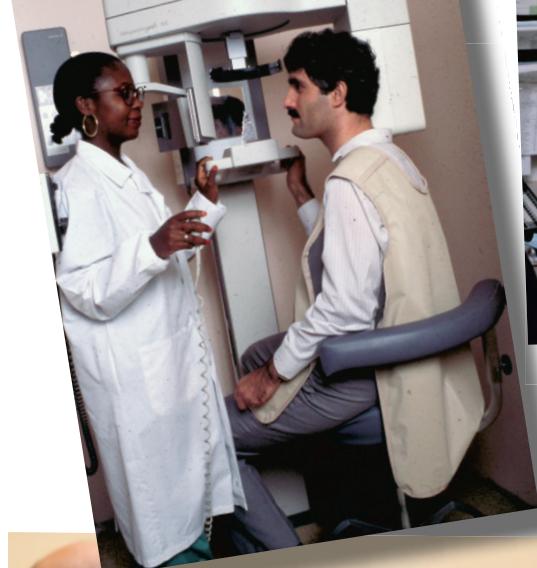
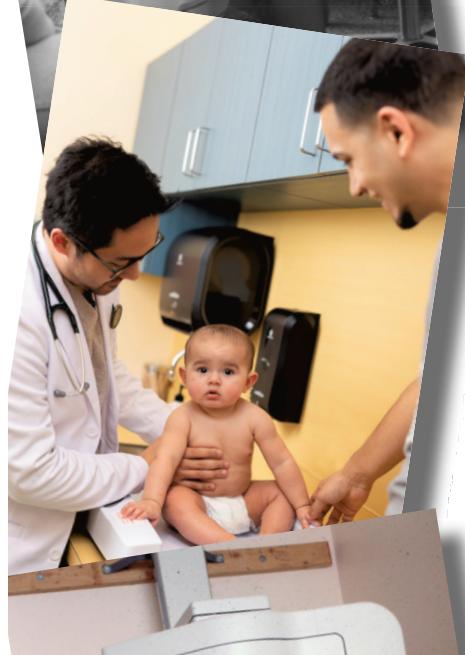
His motion also accuses the committee of waging a "sustained media campaign" against Meadows. Though it does not provide evidence, it says the committee has leaked all of Meadow's text messages to the committee.

The Congressional Defendants, under the auspices of a legitimate subpoena, induced Mr. Meadows to produce thousands of his private communications only to use them

in a concerted and ongoing effort to vilify him publicly through the media." Meadows' attorney, George Terwilliger, wrote in the motion.

A filing late last month cited testimony from a White House aide who said Meadows had been advised beforehand that there could be violence on Jan. 6.

The committee declined through a spokesperson to comment Saturday about Meadows' accusations against the panel.



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For some of you, our only encounter was during the pandemic when we ran Connecticut’s four mass vaccination sites and did COVID-19 testing reaching 750,000 residents.

We have a saying at CHC that “We are proud of what we have accomplished, but we didn’t do this on our own and can’t move forward alone.” Thank you to our many community partners and friends for helping us on our journey and for your commitment to that clarion call for justice.

For more information on CHC, visit: www.chc1.com.

For more information on Weitzman Institute, visit: www.weitzmaninstitute.org.

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WORLD & NATION**NEWS BRIEFING****Alabama prison official missing after escorting inmate to courthouse**

From news services

FLORENCE, Ala. — A prison official from Alabama is missing after escorting an inmate to a courthouse for a hearing.

The Lauderdale County Sheriff's Office said in a Facebook post Saturday that Assistant Director of Corrections Vicki White disappeared while escorting an inmate being held on capital murder charges. The inmate is also missing.

On Saturday, Sheriff Rick Singleton confirmed the Alabama Law Enforcement Agency, FBI and U.S. Marshals are assisting in the investigation.

White, 56, who's been with the department for 16 years, left the detention center with inmate Casey White on Friday morning and neither has been seen since. The pair are not related. The vehicle they were traveling in was discovered at a nearby shopping center parking lot, according to the sheriff's office.

White, 38, was being held on capital murder charges in the 2015 death of Connie Ridgeway. He confessed to the slaying in 2020 while in state prison for other crimes, WHNT-TV reported.

At a news conference Friday, Singleton said Vicki White, armed with a 9mm, left the detention center with the inmate around 9:41 a.m. headed to the courthouse for what she said was a mental health evaluation for Casey. She was alone with the inmate, which the sheriff said was in direct violation of department policy.

Singleton said there was no mental health evaluation for the inmate scheduled at the courthouse.

White also told co-workers she had a doctor's appointment scheduled, which was confirmed but

the office said the deputy never showed.

Officials said no one realized the two were missing until 3:30 p.m. on Friday. Deputies tried to contact Vicki White but her phone repeatedly went to voicemail.

Singleton said his department was "aggressively investigating" the incident and would be looking into previous interaction between the two.

Singleton said his department was "shocked" and that it was obviously a possibility that the corrections officer helped him escape. Singleton told news outlets that Vicki White had turned in her retirement papers the day before she went missing.

UK lawmaker resigns: A British lawmaker from the governing Conservative Party has resigned after admitting he watched pornography on his phone in the House of Commons chamber.

Neil Parish, a member of Parliament since 2010, announced his decision Saturday after pressure from members of his own party who sought to defuse sleaze allegations before Britain holds its local elections on Thursday.

Parish, 65, stepped down after what he described as a moment of "madness." Parish, chairman of the house's Environment, Food and Rural Affairs Committee, said he was trying to look at a tractor website, but stumbled into a porn site with a similar name and watched it for "a bit." Reports that a lawmaker had watched porn amid the historic green benches of the House of Commons triggered a flood of complaints from women in Parliament about the misogyny and sexual harassment they have faced while doing their jobs.



Tornado's wrath: A home destroyed by a tornado is seen Saturday in Andover, Kansas. Officials said the twister hit southeast Wichita and Andover on Friday evening. They also said several people were injured and thousands were left without power.

Andover Fire Chief Chad Russell said 50 to 100 buildings were damaged in Sedgwick County. JAIME GREEN/THE WICHITA EAGLE

Outbreak in China: Restaurants in Beijing have been ordered to close dine-in services over the May holidays as the Chinese capital grapples with a COVID-19 outbreak.

Authorities said Saturday that dining in restaurants has become an infection risk, citing virus transmissions between diners and staff.

Restaurants have been ordered to only provide take-out services from Sunday to Wednesday, during China's Labor Day holidays.

Beijing began mass testing millions of residents last week as it scrambled to stamp out a growing COVID-19 outbreak.

Authorities have also ordered parks, scenic areas and entertainment venue to operate at half-capacity during the holiday period. Schools have also been ordered closed.

Teacher investigation: School officials in Rochester, New York, are inves-

tigating allegations that a white teacher told his class of mostly Black students to pick seeds out of cotton and put on handcuffs during lessons on slavery in a seventh-grade social studies class.

The teacher has been put on leave while the school system investigates the allegations. They came to light after a parent posted on Facebook that her daughter was confronted with the cotton-picking lesson last Tuesday.

School officials haven't identified the teacher. Teachers union President Adam Urbanski told WXXI-AM that "if someone departs from what they should be doing, they should suffer the consequences, but due process has to be allowed first."

On another occasion, the teacher brought in handcuffs and shackles, according to the students. The parent said that when her daughter balked at putting them on, the teacher threat-

ened to send her to the principal's office or the school counselor.

The parents are calling for the teacher's firing.

UN mission in Libya: The U.N. Security Council has voted unanimously to extend the U.N. political mission in Libya for three months, with the United States and Britain accusing Russia of blocking a longer and more substantive mandate that would include promoting reconciliation of the country's rival governments claiming power.

Russia's U.N. Ambassador Vassily Nebenzia said Moscow insisted on a three-month extension to pressure U.N. Secretary-General Antonio Guterres to appoint a new envoy to head the mission.

U.S. deputy ambassador Jeffrey DeLaurentis countered Friday that a short mandate "severely complicates" the U.N.'s ability to recruit a new head of the mission.

The oil-rich African nation plunged into turmoil after a NATO-backed uprising in 2011 toppled dictator Moammar Gadhafi, who was later killed. It then became divided between rival governments — one in the east, backed by military commander Khalifa Hifter, and a U.N.-supported administration in the capital Tripoli. Each side is supported by different militias and foreign powers.

Children killed: At least eight children between the ages of 12 and 15 died Saturday when a passenger tricycle overturned and sank in an irrigation channel in Egypt's Nile Delta, authorities said.

The accident took place in the city of Itay el-Baroud. The children were workers at a factory in the city, some 90 miles north of Cairo, a police statement said.

The three-wheeled vehicle was carrying at least 13 people when it overturned and sank in the channel early Saturday.



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WORLD & NATION

Child-neglect tech raises concerns

Review: Opaque algorithm eyed as unreliable, unfair

**By Sally Ho
and Garance Burke**

Associated Press

For family law attorney Robin Frank, defending parents at one of their lowest points — when they risk losing their children — has never been easy.

The job is never easy, but in the past she knew what she was up against when squaring off against child protective services in family court. Now, she worries she's fighting something she can't see: an opaque algorithm whose statistical calculations help social workers decide which families should be investigated in the first place.

"A lot of people don't know that it's even being used," Frank said. "Families should have the right to have all of the information in their file."

From Los Angeles to Colorado and throughout Oregon, as child welfare agencies use or consider tools similar to the one in Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, an Associated Press review has identified concerns about the technology, including questions about its reliability and its potential to harden racial disparities in the child welfare system. Related issues have already torpedoed some jurisdictions' plans to use predictive models, such as the tool notably dropped by the state of Illinois.

According to new research from a Carnegie Mellon University team obtained exclusively by AP, Allegheny's algorithm in its first years of operation showed a pattern of flagging a disproportionate number of Black children for a "mandatory" neglect investigation, when compared with white children. The independent researchers,



Family law attorney Robin Frank says a lot of people are not aware that the algorithm is being used. MATT ROURKE/AP

who received data from the county, also found that social workers disagreed with the risk scores the algorithm produced about one-third of the time.

County officials said social workers can always override the tool, and called the research "hypothetical."

Child welfare officials in Allegheny County, the cradle of Mister Rogers' TV neighborhood and the icon's child-centric innovations, say the cutting-edge tool — which is capturing attention around the country — uses data to support agency workers as they try to protect children from neglect.

That nuanced term can include everything from inadequate housing to poor hygiene, but is a different category from physical or sexual abuse, which is investigated separately in Pennsylvania and is not subject to the algorithm.

"Workers, whoever they

are, shouldn't be asked to make, in a given year, 14, 15, 16,000 of these kinds of decisions with incredibly imperfect information," said Erin Dalton, director of the county's Department of Human Services and a pioneer in implementing the predictive child welfare algorithm.

Critics say it gives a program powered by data mostly collected about poor people an outsized role in deciding families' fates, and they warn against local officials' growing reliance on artificial intelligence tools.

If the tool had acted on its own to screen in a comparable rate of calls, it would have recommended that two-thirds of Black children be investigated, compared with about half of all other children reported, according to another study published last month and co-authored by a researcher who has audited the county's algorithm.

Advocates worry that

if similar tools are used in other child welfare systems with minimal or no human intervention — akin to how algorithms have been used to make decisions in the criminal justice system — they could reinforce existing racial disparities in the child welfare system.

"It's not decreasing the impact among Black families," said Logan Stapleton, a Carnegie Mellon researcher. "On the point of accuracy and disparity, (the county) is making strong statements that I think are misleading."

Because family court hearings are closed to the public and the records are sealed, AP wasn't able to identify first-hand any families who the algorithm recommended be mandatorily investigated for child neglect, nor any cases that resulted in a child being sent to foster care. Families and their attorneys can never be sure of the algorithm's role in their lives either because

they aren't allowed to know the scores.

Child welfare agencies in at least 26 states and Washington, D.C., have considered using algorithmic tools, and at least 11 have deployed them, according to American Civil Liberties Union.

Larimer County, Colorado, home to Fort Collins, is now testing a tool modeled on Allegheny's and plans to share scores with families if it moves forward with the program.

"It's their life and their history," said Thad Paul, a manager with the county's Children Youth & Family Services. "We want to minimize the power differential that comes with being involved in child welfare. We just really think it is unethical not to share the score with families."

Oregon does not share risk score numbers from its statewide screening tool, which was first implemented in 2018 and was

inspired by Allegheny's algorithm. The Oregon Department of Human Services — currently preparing to hire its eighth new child welfare director in six years — explored at least four other algorithms while the agency was under scrutiny by a crisis oversight board ordered by the governor.

It recently paused a pilot algorithm built to help decide when foster care children can be reunified with their families. Oregon also explored three other tools — predictive models to assess a child's risk for death and severe injury, whether children should be placed in foster care and if so, where.

For years, California explored data-driven approaches to the statewide child welfare system before abandoning a proposal to use a predictive risk modeling tool in 2019.

"During the project, the state also explored concerns about how the tool may impact racial equity. These findings resulted in the state ceasing exploration," department spokesman Scott Murray said in an email.

Los Angeles County's Department of Children and Family Services is being audited following high-profile child deaths, and is seeking a new director after its previous one stepped down late last year. It's piloting a "complex-risk algorithm" that helps to isolate the highest-risk cases that are being investigated, the county said.

In the first few months that social workers in the Mojave Desert city of Lancaster started using the tool, however, county data shows that Black children were the subject of nearly half of all the investigations flagged for additional scrutiny, despite making up 22% of the city's child population, according to the U.S. Census.

The county did not say why, but said it will decide whether to expand the tool later this year.



A Cochiti Fire Department vehicle heads toward smoke from the Cerro Pelado Fire in the Jemez Mountains on Friday in Cochiti, N.M. ROBERT BROWMAN/THE ALBUQUERQUE JOURNAL

Bulldozers, aircraft called in to fight wildfire near NM city

By Paul Davenport

Associated Press

Over 1,000 firefighters backed by bulldozers and aircraft battled the largest active wildfire in the U.S. on Saturday after strong winds pushed it across some containment lines and closer to a small city in northern New Mexico.

Overnight mapping imagery indicated that the fire that has burned at least 166 homes grew from 103 square miles Friday to 152 square miles by early Saturday, officials said.

Ash carried 7 miles through the air fell on Las Vegas, N.M., population about 13,000, and firefighters were trying to prevent the blaze from getting closer, said Mike Johnson, a spokesman for the fire management team.

Calmer winds Saturday were aiding the firefighting effort after gusts accelerated the fire's advance to a point Friday when "we were watching the fire march about a mile every hour," said Jayson Coil, a fire operations official.

But more extreme fire danger was forecast for

Sunday for parts of New Mexico, Arizona, Nevada and Colorado, according to the National Weather Service.

Winds in northern New Mexico gusted to 65 mph Friday before subsiding as nightfall approached.

By Saturday, aircraft that dump fire retardant and water could resume flights to aid ground crews.

The fire's rapid growth Friday had forced crews to repeatedly change positions because of threatening conditions but managed to immediately re-engage without being forced to retreat, Coil said. No injuries were reported.

The winds first sent the flames advancing furiously on April 22 across the northern New Mexico landscape. Since then, crews have worked to limit structure damage by installing sprinklers, pumps and hoses and clearing vegetation around buildings, officials said.

With that work and five times as many firefighters now working the fire, they were in much better position than a week earlier and were on track to make "tremendous progress,"

Carl Schwoppe, the incident management team's commander said Friday.

The fire as Saturday was contained around about a third of its larger perimeter, down a little from Thursday. The fire started April 6 when a prescribed burn set by firefighters to clear out small trees and brush that can fuel fires was declared out of control. That fire then merged with another wildfire a week ago.

With the fire's recent growth, estimates of people forced to evacuate largely rural areas plus a subdivision near Las Vegas doubled from 1,500 to 2,000 people to between 3,000 and 4,000, said Jesus Romero, the assistant manager for San Miguel County.

Officials have said the fire has destroyed 277 structures, including at least 166 homes.

Wildfires were also still burning Saturday elsewhere in New Mexico and in Arizona. The fires are burning unusually hot and fast for this time of year, especially in the Southwest, where experts said some timber in the region is drier than kiln-dried wood.

NAOMI JUDD 1946-2022

Country star recorded hits as part of Grammy-winning duo

By Kristin M. Hall
Associated Press

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Naomi Judd, the Kentucky-born singer of the Grammy-winning duo The Judds and mother of Wynonna and Ashley Judd, has died. She was 76.

The Judds announced her death on Saturday in a statement provided to The Associated Press.

"Today we experienced a tragedy. We lost our beautiful mother to the disease of mental illness," the statement said. "We are shattered. We are navigating profound grief and know that as we loved her, she was loved by her public. We are in unknown territory." The statement did not elaborate further.

The Judds were to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday and they had just announced an arena tour to begin in the fall, their first tour together in over a decade. They also made a return to awards shows when they performed at the CMT Music Awards in April.

"Honored to have witnessed 'Love Can Build a Bridge' just a few short weeks ago," singer Maren Morris posted on Twitter on Saturday.

"This is heartbreaking news! Naomi Judd was one of the sweetest people I've ever known," singer Travis Tritt posted on Twitter, noting that he had worked with Judd several times on screen and during performances.

The mother-daughter performers scored 14 No. 1 songs in a career that spanned nearly three decades. After rising to the top of country music, they called it quits in 1991 after doctors diagnosed Naomi Judd with hepatitis.

Naomi Judd was the matriarch of The Judds, who were to be inducted into the Country Music Hall of Fame on Sunday. Judd died Saturday at 76. CHRIS PIZZELLO/INVISION 2012

They earned a total of five Grammy Awards together on hits like "Why Not Me" and "Give a Little Love."

The Judds sang about family, the belief in marriage and the virtue of fidelity. Because Naomi was so young looking, the two were mistaken for sisters early in their career.

They first got attention singing on Ralph Emery's morning show in early 1980, where the host named them the "Soap Sisters" because Naomi said she used to make her own soap.

After the success of "Mama He's Crazy," they won the Horizon Award at the 1984 CMA Awards. Naomi started her speech by saying "Slap the dog and spit in the fire!"

Daughter Ashley Judd is an actor known for her roles in such movies as "Kiss the Girls," "Double Jeopardy" and "Heat."

Naomi Judd is also survived by her husband and fellow singer, Larry Strickland, who was a backup singer for Elvis Presley.

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Naomi Judd is also survived by her husband and fellow singer, Larry Strickland, who was a backup singer for Elvis Presley.

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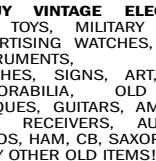
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MAGAZINE RACKET**BY SAM EZERSKY / EDITED BY WILL SHORTZ**

Sam Eversky, 26, is the digital puzzles editor of The New York Times. He also edits the daily Spelling Bee. This is his 38th crossword for the paper. On the day this one runs, he himself will be running the Brooklyn Half Marathon — the first time he's ever done this distance. He says, "Hoping solvers won't be struggling on Sunday morning as much as me!" — W.S.

ACROSS

- 1 Make a bust, say
- 7 Chew (on)
- 11 Ointment amounts
- 15 Modern lead-in to mania
- 19 "Enough!"
- 20 Contemporary of Picasso
- 21 Factory watchdog, in brief
- 22 Native of the country whose national sport is oil wrestling
- 23 Bit of company, swag for a Genius Bar staffer?
- 25 With 114-Across, exasperated question to parking enforcement?
- 27 Awesome time Elements of a Sherlock Holmes sports mystery?
- 30 A small part of who you are
- 31 Prefix with medicine
- 32 "Duck Dynasty" network
- 33 Irish ___, popular St. Patrick's Day cocktail
- 36 Like much toothpaste
- 38 Mountain mammal
- 42 Plant cultivated by the Incas
- 43 Program after undergrad, for some
- 47 "___ rate ..."
- 48 Today's plans: watchin' someone's kids?
- 54 Broadband init.
- 55 Overrun
- 56 "Mr. Mom" actress Teri
- 57 Data output denoted by "N/A"
- 59 Super Bowl in 2022
- 61 Come on down!
- 63 Name that's a body part in reverse
- 64 It may be measured in both feet and meters

65 How much Michael Jordan or Wilt Chamberlain could score, hyperbolically?

71 Lead-in to cross

72 Happy companion

73 Focus of the website Brickipedia

74 "The Hangover" character who wakes up with a missing tooth

75 Eschews grains and processed foods, perhaps

78 Common results of penalties

80 Writers such as Sappho

85 Waze way: Abbr.

86 Missile silo's holding?

89 Pie slices might be displayed in one

91 Natural application to waterproof a ship's hull

92 Guacamole go-with?

93 Engine type, informally

94 Playwright Edward

97 Hidden obstacle

100 Transport on a river

102 Transport on a rail

106 "Dope!"

107 Where Sweet'N Low displays its logo?

111 T as in Tartarus

114 See 25-Across

115 Cry following an electrical malfunction?

117 Rufus and Chaka Khan's "—Nobody"

118 Like garage floors, often

119 Slight amount

120 Old English folklore figure

121 Jumbo

122 When said three times, "What have we here?!"

123 Music score abbr.

124 Jaguar two-seaters starting in 2013

44 Buy time

45 State of subjugation

46 Male voter stereotype

47 Beginning in the mid-2010s

48 Wheels off the road?

49 Run in place

50 In-state attendee of Great Basin College, e.g.

51 Check

52 Brother in the Lemony Snicket books

53 Certain college member

54 Great __

55 Sizable urban construction project

56 Like pioneering search engines of the 1980s

57 Polka-influenced music style

58 Yukon and Acadia, for two

59 Canon competitor

60 Sizable urban construction project

61 King of the gods in Wagner's "Der Ring des Nibelungen"

62 Ann of Hulu's "The Handmaid's Tale"

63 Rubbish receptacle

64 Hindi name for India

65 Smooth and glossy

66 ... per my understanding"

67 Zap

68 Line on a neck

69 Clears

70 "Resume speed," musically

71 The Golden Arches, on stock tickers

72 One covering plenty of ground

73 Persona non ___

74 Invent

75 When Lady Macbeth cries, "Out, damned spot!"

76 Smoke shop purchase

77 Standout in a field

78 Bunch of scoundrels

79 Fun plans after work, say

80 Stuff in stuffed pasta shells

81 Aphid that produces honeydew

82 Tissue in a plant stem

83 DNA reviewer, in brief

84 Happened to

85 ... per my understanding"

86 Placed

87 ... must all learn to live together as brothers, ___ will all perish together as fools": M.L.K. Jr.

88 Cakewalk

89 Bygone messaging app

90 Persona non ___

91 Invent

92 Poker giveaway

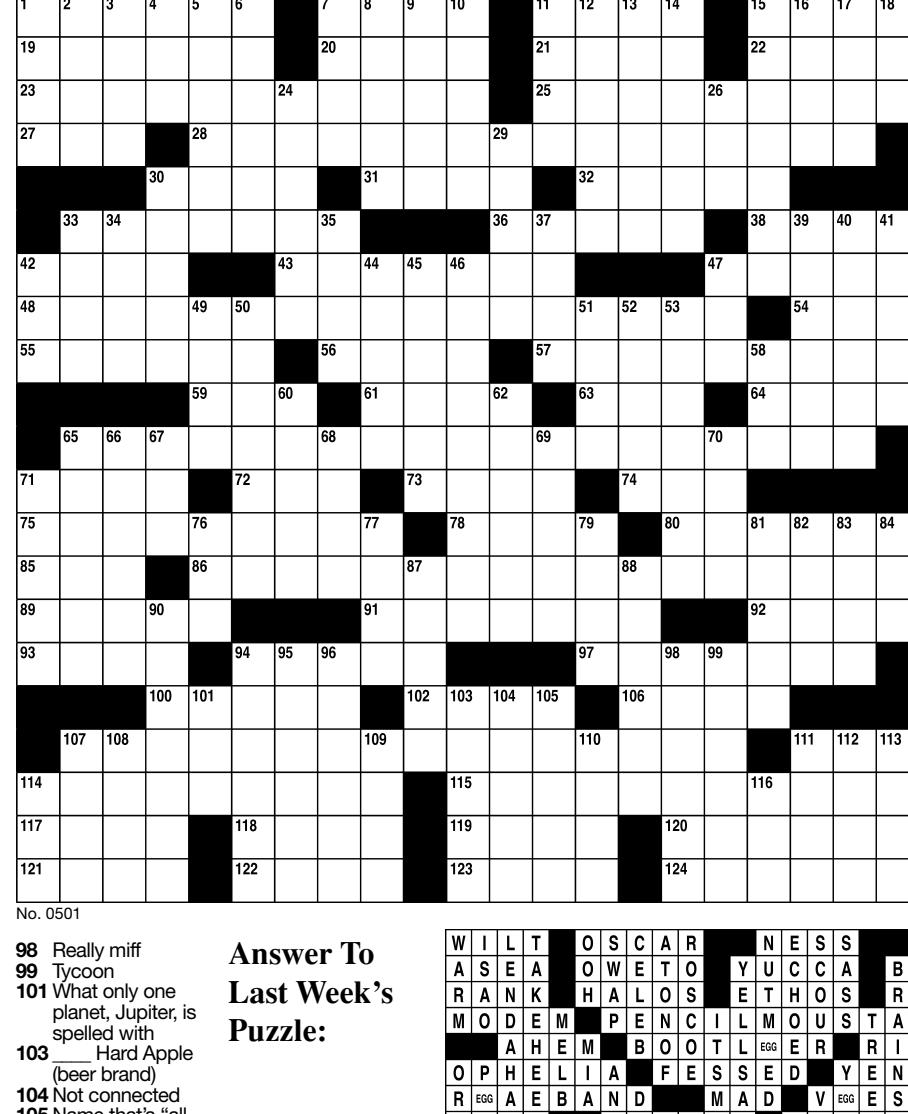
93 Certain outbuilding

94 Smoke shop purchase

95 Happened to

96 ... per my understanding"

New York Times Crossword



No. 0501

Answer To Last Week's Puzzle:

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| W | I | L | T | O | S | C | A | N | E | S | S | R | A | E |
| A | S | E | A | W | E | T | O | Y | U | C | A | B | E | L |
| R | A | N | K | H | A | L | O | S | E | T | H | O | R | A |
| M | O | D | E | M | P | E | N | C | I | L | M | O | U | S |
| A | H | E | M | W | B | O | O | T | L | E | G | E | R | I |
| O | P | H | E | L | I | A | F | E | S | S | E | Y | N | E |
| R | E | G | A | E | B | A | N | D | M | A | D | V | E | O |
| S | E | N | D | T | E | A | S | E | T | B | A | S | S | T |
| O | D | D | A | S | S | E | R | T | P | O | T | T | E | M |
| A | W | A | Y | Y | P | O | E | T | R | Y | M | A | R | I |
| D | E | A | C | O | N | L | E | O | M | Y | E | O | O | N |
| R | U | L | E | R | S | P | I | L | O | S | E | G | D | O |
| E | B | O | O | K | N | G | O | O | R | G | A | N | S | W |
| S | I | N | F | O | N | I | A | H | A | N | S | E | L | M |
| S | E | E | S | F | I | T | L | O | N | M | A | Y | B | E |
| P | A | L | P | E | S | T | L | E | S | T | R | A | N | G |
| K | C | A | R | T | A | G | T | E | A | M | S | D | E | L |
| B | E | G | E | D | T | H | E | Q | U | E | N | A | P | Y |
| L | E | D | E | D | R | U | M | S | E | L | B | W | R | E |
| E | R | E | S | T | R | I | E | S | S | I | E | G | E | E |
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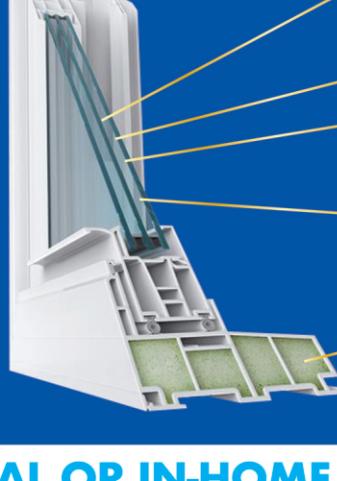
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State Senate passes abortion bill

Gov. Lamont pledges signature on far-reaching measure after emotional debate in chamber

By Christopher Keating

Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — With a major U.S. Supreme Court ruling months away, the state Senate debated emotionally Friday night before approving a key abortion bill that would be the most far-reaching in Connecticut in the past 32 years.

The bipartisan bill would increase the number of medical professionals allowed to perform abortions in Connecticut and

expand abortion-related protections regarding lawsuits.

After three hours of debate, the Senate voted 25-9 with two Republicans absent shortly before midnight.

The often-emotional, personal and passionate debate included opposition by some members of the legislature's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus, who said they were inspired by a freshman legislator, Rep. Trenee McGee of West Haven, who spoke passionately

recently before voting against the bill.

The state House of Representatives had voted 87-60 recently for the measure, and Gov. Ned Lamont has pledged to sign it into law.

Lawmakers debated the detailed, seven-page bill late Friday night in a rare discussion at the Capitol as the state's abortion law from 1990 has remained largely unchanged for three decades.

One of the major provisions in the bill would expand the medical specialists who are allowed to perform abortion services — allowing advanced practice registered nurses, physician assistants and

nurse-midwives to provide medication and aspiration abortions in the first trimester.

Connecticut would become the 15th state to allow a wider range of medical professionals, including New York, California, Massachusetts, Vermont, New Hampshire and Maine.

Sen. Douglas McCrory, a Hartford Democrat who supported the bill, said he has been in the legislature for 17 years and has heard many speeches. One of the best, he said, was McGee's on abortion. He said she noted that Black women make up only 12% of the population but have 38% of abortions.

"She said it's used as birth control in our community," McCrory said. "I'm just giving you the facts. You make your own decision ... Rep. McGee pulled the scab off something. Yes, she did."

McCrory, who later voted for the bill, added, "Anyone who knows me knows I stay in my lane ... The issue of women's rights — I don't touch that. Women should do whatever they want with their body."

Sen. Patricia Billie Miller, a Stamford Democrat, and others talked passionately on the Senate floor about Margaret Sanger, the

Turn to Abortion, Page 2

CORONAVIRUS IN CONNECTICUT

A look at racial gap in deaths

Disparities decreased over time as pandemic shifted, Yale study finds

By Alex Putterman

Hartford Courant

Racial disparities in Connecticut's COVID-19 deaths — gaping in the early days of the pandemic — narrowed over time as the crisis spread outward from urban to rural areas, a new Yale School of Public Health study has found.

Though Black and Hispanic people in Connecticut have remained more likely to die from COVID-19 than white residents, the narrowing of those disparities may suggest the success of campaigns to boost testing and vaccination among those communities, researcher Margaret Lind said.

"In general we saw that, over the course of the pandemic in Connecticut, there has been a decline in the disparity of COVID-19 related mortality," said Lind, who led the study. "We are moving in the right direction, and [equity] is something that could be achieved if we keep moving forward."

According to the study, Black and Hispanic people in Connecticut were more than four times as likely as non-Hispanic white people to die from COVID-19 between March 1 and Aug. 25, 2020, when the disease hit poor, under-resourced, urban communities hardest.

But over time, the study found, the COVID-19 mortality rate decreased only slightly among white Connecticut residents while falling much more sharply among Black and Hispanic residents. From July 13 to Dec. 13, 2021, the most recent period the study analyzed, Hispanic people were still about twice as likely to die of COVID-19 as white people, but the gap between Black and white residents had nearly disappeared.

This trend appears to mirror a national pattern in which the burden of COVID-19 gradually shifted over time from urban centers to whiter, more rural areas, which often had lower rates of vaccination and fewer control measures.

Despite the narrowing of



Ram Devkota, of North Haven, who received a heart transplant at Yale New Haven Hospital, is shown with three of his caregivers — Nicole Baldino, from left, Muhammad Anwer and Sounok Sen. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

'It's a second life'

After 'Heart in a Box' transplant, future is wide open for North Haven man

By Jesse Leavenworth

Hartford Courant

When Ram Devkota came to Yale New Haven Hospital's emergency room in July 2020, his heart was about done beating — only hours away from stopping.

A little more than a week after recent heart transplant surgery, Devkota, 31, said he is born anew, the beneficiary of technology that has widened the window on life for him and others with cardiac disease.

"It's a second life," the North Haven man said.

The Heart and Vascular Center at Yale New Haven is the only hospital in Connecticut using technology by TransMedics called the Organ Care System, or "Heart in a Box."

Typically, hearts harvested for transplant are put on ice and must reach the recipient within four hours. The system used to transport Devkota's new heart, however, relies on maintaining warmth.

The harvested organ is kept beating and regularly infused with oxygenated blood.

The machine's monitors are designed to keep a donor heart "at a human-like, metabolically active state," according to TransMedics.

The machine has about doubled allowable travel time from donor to recipient. Also, Heart in a Box enables transport of hearts reanimated after cardiovascular death. Transplant surgeons typically have taken functioning hearts from donors with irreversible loss of brain function. Donations from those who died of cardiovascular

Turn to Transplant, Page 3

Simsbury High School students stage walkout

Dozens protest school's handling of sexual assault investigations

By Seamus McAvoy

Hartford Courant

Several dozen students at Simsbury High School staged a walkout protest Friday to call attention to the way the school handles reports of sexual assaults following multiple recent allegations currently under investigation.

Students could be heard leading different chants, including "We need justice" and "No means no." Many held signs, one of which read "We Will Not Be Silent Until We Get Justice."

The protest was sparked by a social media post circulated beginning Thursday. In the post, a Simsbury student detailed how she and two other female students came forward to school officials in late March to report another student for multiple alleged acts of sexual assault.

Matt Curtis, superintendent of Simsbury Public Schools, addressed the protest in a statement to Simsbury parents and guardians.

"A series of social media posts encouraged students to join a protest about the school's handling of alleged sexual assaults that had recently been reported," Curtis wrote. "The district will not have any comment about the allegations as they involve confidential student matters. Please know that these allegations are being taken with the seriousness they deserve and

in accordance with new requirements under federal law that protect the rights of all students during such investigations.

"Administrators have been working in collaboration with the Simsbury Police Department and legal counsel to follow the necessary policies and protocols associated with issues of this nature. We remain committed to supporting our students and families throughout this process."

Turn to Walkout, Page 3

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SUNDAY CT**Deaths**

from Page 1

disparities in Connecticut, the pandemic has remained, on balance, more significant for some groups than for others. Dating back to March 2020, state data shows, Black and Hispanic people have been substantially more likely to catch COVID-19 and about twice as likely to die from the disease, after adjusting for age.

"We did see this attenuation overall, but there is still room to get

better," Lind said. "We can reduce these inequities, but we are not there yet."

Disparities in COVID-19's impact in Connecticut were apparent from the earliest days of the pandemic, as state data almost immediately showed Black and Latino people catching and dying from the disease at higher rates than white people.

Experts say some groups were hit harder than others for several reasons. For one thing, Black and Latino people in Connecticut are more likely to live in densely

populated areas and work front-line jobs that put them in direct contact with coworkers and customers. For another, decades of discrimination mean they are more likely to have underlying conditions like asthma and diabetes, which exacerbate the effects of COVID-19.

Though Lind's team did not specifically study why these disparities shrunk over time, she guesses it was a result of state and federal programs aimed at distributing resources more evenly, combined with evolving attitudes

toward COVID-19 among different groups. Throughout much of the pandemic, survey data has shown that people of color in Connecticut were more likely than white people to, for example, wear masks in public.

Whereas Black and Latino people in Connecticut were initially far less likely than white people to receive a COVID-19 vaccine, those gaps have narrowed over time, state numbers show, which each racial and ethnic group now showing relatively high levels of vaccination.

Lind says her findings underscore the importance of measures aimed at reducing health inequities — a lesson she says could be useful ahead of the next health crisis.

"These measures such as trying to get testing equitably distributed, trying to get prevention measures ... widely utilized [helped]," she said. "The utility of education around that is something we should really think about and continue to move forward with, recognizing that this will not be our last global pandemic."

Abortion

from Page 1

talked passionately on the Senate floor about Margaret Sanger, the founding of Planned Parenthood and the history of abortion.

"Babies were ripped from Black mothers, African mothers, during slavery," she said. "That's the history that Black women and Native American women have had to endure. ... There's no way that I can accept a system that would intentionally take a baby from a mother. ... Yes, they sterilized men, too. It wasn't just women."

Miller noted that legislators often say that the brain is still developing until age 25 when they talk about issues like juvenile justice.

"We're saying if an 18-year-old wants to have an abortion, she can do that. ... That gives me pause," Miller said. "My friends who had abortions at 18 ... and it still bothers them. ... I will not stand here and support a system that was designed to take advantage of people who didn't know any better."

She said that some women who are now in their 60s and 70s are still depressed about having an abortion decades earlier.

"I know I'm not going to be the most popular person after tonight," Miller told her colleagues. "[McGee] said, in the black community, abortions are birth control. That's true. ... I hear family planning — code word for abortion. Why can't it be a code word for planning your family?

"I agree it is her body to choose. ... I cannot support a system that has tried, systematically, to get rid of a race of people. ... Sorry, this is about racism, and that's how I view this. ... I'm sorry if I'm emotional ... but this goes back to Africa for me. ... This goes deeper than just

choice. ... Sometimes we don't have the choice because we don't have the money."

The next speaker, Sen. Marilyn Moore of Bridgeport, said that her heart was racing as she stood up to speak due to her emotions on the issue. An employee for Planned Parenthood for eight years, she said she helped women to get mammograms.

"I knew about Ms. Sanger," she said. "What I learned at Planned Parenthood was how much racism and distrust there is in the medical system. ... People talk about why Black people don't want to get vaccinated because we've had medical apartheid. ... Right now, I'm not feeling good about this bill."

Planned Parenthood will need to step up and say we need to do better."

At the start of the debate, Sen. Gary Winfield, a New Haven Democrat, said that Connecticut needs to act because of the pending Supreme Court action.

"We have to think about what we will do when that time comes," Winfield told colleagues in a debate that started at 8:48 p.m. Friday.

Sen. Saad Anwar, a South Windsor Democrat who is a medical doctor, said that if someone had told him five years ago that the state Senate would be debating abortion, "I would be laughing at them ... but here we are."

As abortions are restricted in multiple states like Texas, Anwar predicted, "We will be a place of refuge for a lot of people."

Abortion rights advocates are highly concerned that the U.S. Supreme Court this year might overturn the 1973 landmark Roe vs. Wade ruling — meaning that all 50 states would individually decide the abortion rules in their jurisdiction.

Another key provision in the bill would allow Connecticut to protect the medical records of women who travel here from states like Texas or Louisiana. The information would also be protected by subpoenas in other states.

In addition, if a Connecticut resident is sued under a Texas-style abortion law, the bill would give them the right for a counter-suit in order to recover reimbursement, attorney's fees and costs. A "clawback" provision would protect Connecticut residents from Senate Bill 8 in Texas that allows private citizens in Texas to sue a doctor performing an abortion in Connecticut. The bill changes the state's extradition statute so that Connecticut residents could not be summoned by other states, legislators said.

"What's happening in other states is an attack on women's health," said Senate majority leader Bob Duff of Norwalk. "What I see is mostly men, who look like me," offering bills to restrict abortion in other states.

Senate President Pro Tem Martin Looney, a longtime New Haven attorney, said the bill would lead to "a prevention of a chaotic legal situation that could happen in our country."

Sen. John Kissel of Enfield, the ranking Senate Republican on the legislature's judiciary committee, said constituents in his district have strong views on both ends of the abortion spectrum.

"We could spend days debating when does life begin, but I will not do that," said Kissel, who has served 30 years in the Senate. "All of these are difficult moral questions, religious questions, technological questions, but I'm not going to get into that."

Kissel, who opposed the bill Friday night, said he once offered

a bill on parental notification for minors who are getting an abortion, but the measure never passed.

"The advocates of the pro-choice notion were upset that we even had a public hearing," Kissel said. "People feel very passionately on both sides of this issue."

"We're sort of a live-and-let-live state right now, protecting women's rights."

Sen. Heather Somers, the ranking Senate Republican on the public health committee, said the bill protects Connecticut's medical professionals from being sued by another state.

"It is somewhat outrageous that another state thinks it can come into our state and sue clinicians," said Somers, who supported the bill.

Sen. Henri Martin, a Bristol Republican, said, "There are some here tonight to defend the right of the unborn. ... This is going to be an ongoing fight."

Sen. Dennis Bradley, a Bridgeport Democrat, said that only two medical professionals gave testimony at the judiciary committee and both questioned the bill. He said the legislature had not collected enough empirical data in the process to make its decision.

"By moving forward in this fashion and not flushing things out in the committee process ... I think we should all proceed with caution," Bradley said.

But Anwar said that about 100 people testified on the public health aspects of abortion under a separate bill that was merged into the final bill.

Amanda Skinner, a nurse-midwife who serves as chief executive officer of Planned Parenthood of Southern New England, said recently that the bill was needed because some women now wait

more than two weeks for a first-trimester abortion as there is a shortage of medical providers.

"Abortion access is on the line," Skinner told reporters in Hartford. "Connecticut must be a state where abortion care is acceptable without shame, stigma or fear."

Democratic legislators say that some patients from Texas have already traveled to Planned Parenthood in Hartford's North End, but they could not say how many out-of-state patients have arrived.

Besides the Catholic Conference, one of the leaders in the lobbying against the issue is the Family Institute of Connecticut. The institute was pushing against a constitutional amendment in favor of abortion rights, but insiders said the amendment is not expected to come up for a vote.

"Abortion is the most sacred of their unholy sacraments," the institute told supporters in an email. "And please pray. Whatever victories we may have, should God grant them to us, belong ultimately to Him. Please pray for the defeat of all ... of these bills."

After the vote, Rep. Jillian Gilchrest of West Hartford said Connecticut is stepping forward due to national trends.

"As states like Oklahoma continue to enact extreme anti-abortion laws and we anticipate the overturn of Roe v. Wade in June, Connecticut stands at the forefront of protecting reproductive rights," she said. "Although Roe is codified in our state law and abortion will remain legal here, that does not mean we are fully protected nor that everyone has access. This bill is critical as we prepare for a post-Roe America."

Christopher Keating can be reached at ckeating@courant.com.

WEEKLY MARKET RUNDOWN**DOW**

32,977.21 -834.19

NASDAQ

12,334.64 -504.65

S&P 500

4,131.93 -139.85

10-YR T-NOTE

2.88% -.02

30-YR T-BOND

2.94% ...

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\$104.69 +2.62

GOLD

\$1,909.30 -21.70

EURO

\$1.0568 -.0219

Sunday, May 1, 2022**STOCKS OF LOCAL INTEREST**

| COMPANY | TICKER | 52-WK RANGE | FRIDAY | \$CHG | %CHG | %CHG %RTN | RANK %RTN | PE YLD | COMPANY | TICKER | 52-WK RANGE | FRIDAY | \$CHG | %CHG | %CHG %RTN | RANK %RTN | PE YLD |
|---------------------|--------|-------------|---------|---------|---------|-----------|-----------|--------|---------------------|--------|-------------|--------|--------|--------|-----------|-----------|--------|
| AT&T Inc | T | 16.63 | 27.72 | 18.86 | -0.66 | -3.4 | -23.3 | -9.0 | Intelsat SA | I | — | — | .38 | 0.00 | 0.0 | — | 0.0 |
| Adv Micro Dev | AMD | 72.50 | 164.46 | 85.52 | -2.62 | -3.0 | -46.6 | 6.7 | Johnson & Johnson | JNJ | 155.72 | 186.69 | 180.46 | -1.08 | -0.6 | 5.5 | 15.9 |
| Alphabet Inc C | GOOG | 2230.05 | 3042.00 | 2299.33 | -92.95 | -3.9 | -20.5 | .4 | Kaman | KAMN | 33.93 | 57.36 | 39.01 | -4.96 | -11.3 | -21.1 | -1.4 |
| Alphabet Inc A | GOOGL | 2193.62 | 3030.93 | 2282.19 | -110.52 | -4.6 | -21.2 | .5 | Lincoln Natl Corp | LNC | 56.41 | 77.57 | 60.15 | -4.80 | -7.4 | -11.9 | -5 |
| Amazon.com Inc | AMZN | 2671.45 | 3773.08 | 2485.63 | -401.37 | -13.9 | -25.5 | -16.4 | MGMT Res Int'l | MGM | 35.72 | 51.17 | 41.04 | -0.04 | -0.1 | -8.6 | 2.0 |
| Amphenol Corp | APH | 64.13 | 88.45 | 71.50 | 2.06 | 3.0 | -18.2 | 10.0 | Meta Platforms Inc | FB | 169.00 | 384.33 | 200.47 | -16.36 | -8.9 | -40.4 | 33.0 |
| Apple Inc | AAPL | 122.25 | 182.94 | 157.65 | -4.14 | -2.6 | -11.2 | 23.2 | MetLife Inc | MET | 55.21 | 73.18 | 65.68 | -3.88 | -5.6 | 5.1 | 9.3 |
| Avangrid Inc | AGR | 42.20 | 55.57 | 44.35 | -3.25 | -6.8 | -11.1 | -5.9 | Microsoft Corp | MSFT | 238.07 | 349.67 | 277.52 | 3.49 | 1.3 | -17.5 | 14.7 |
| Bank of America | BAC | 35.93 | 50.11 | 35.68 | -1.88 | -5.0 | -19.8 | -6.0 | Novartis AG | NVS | 79.09 | 95.17 | 88.03 | -1.18 | -1.3 | 0.6 | 7.8 |
| Barnes Group | B | 35.41 | 56.98 | 33.58 | -4.20 | -11.1 | -27.9 | -27.0 | Nvidia Corporation | NVDA | 134.59 | 346.47 | 185.47 | -9.68 | -5.0 | -36.9 | 29.6 |
| Booking Holdings | BKNG | 1796.45 | 2715.66 | 2210.31 | -3.56 | -0.2 | -7.9 | -7.5 | Otis Worldwide Corp | OTIS | 71.07 | 92.84 | 72.84 | -0.58 | -0.8 | -16.3 | -1.2 |
| Brist Myr Sqb | BMY | 53.22 | 78.17 | 75.27 | -0.48 | -0.6 | ▲ 20.7 | 20.0 | Pfizer Inc | PFE | 37.96 | 61.71 | 49.07 | 0.94 | 2.0 | -16.9 | 34.2 |
| CVS Health Corp | CVS | 74.97 | 111.25 | 96.13 | -5.55 | -5.5 | -19.8 | -6.8 | Pitney Bowes | PBI | 4.30 | 10.06 | 5.27 | 0.71 | 15.6 | -20.5 | -18.1 |
| Carrier Global Corp | CARR | 36.23 | 58.89 | 38.27 | -3.25 | -7.8 | -19.4 | -9.9 | Prudential Fncl | PRU | 94.51 | 124.22 | 108.51 | -7.32 | -6.3 | -17.5 | 14.7 |
| Charter Communic | CHTR | 449.59 | 825.62 | 428.49 | -82.88 | -16.2 | -34.3 | -29.3 | Pub Sv Ent Gp | PEG | 58.96 | 75.61 | 69.66 | -4.22 | -5.7 | 4.4 | |

SUNDAY CT**Wallingford man charged with animal cruelty**

Staff report

A Wallingford man was arrested on a warrant Friday charging him with cruelty to animals, police said.

Franco Bellini-Zabala of Ward Street in Wallingford is free on a \$50,000 bond following his arrest and is due in court May 25, police said.

Police said the case stemmed from when the Wallingford Animal Control Office sought assistance from the Wallingford

Police Department on April 12 about a matter they were investigating following a report from the Hamden animal control division. Police worked with members of the ACO and ultimately sought and served the arrest warrant.

The animal that was allegedly abused is a 7-month-old husky, police said.

"It was determined that the husky had sustained multiple fractures and injuries from multiple traumatic events,"

police said in a statement. "During the investigation, Wallingford Police and ACO uncovered a video of the abuse."

"It's anticipated that it may take several weeks to months for the husky to recover from its injuries," police said in the statement. "After the husky's recovery, he will be put up for adoption at the Wallingford Animal Shelter."

Police said anyone "interested in giving this husky a loving home" should call 203-294-2180.

Transplant

from Page 1

issues have been less viable, but Heart in a Box has changed that scenario, and the donor pool is expected to rise by 30%, doctors say.

From 1988 through March 31 of this year, heart transplants in the U.S. totaled 84,297, with 995 of those operations in Connecticut. The waiting list for heart transplants nationally as of Monday totaled 3,431 people, 60 of those registered in Connecticut hospitals, according to the United Network for Organ Sharing, a nonprofit organization that serves as the nation's transplant system.

Devkota's surgery was on April 17. The next day, doctors said, he was sitting up in bed and enjoying an omelet, a single pancake with syrup and green tea.

A native of Nepal, Devkota came to the U.S. alone in 2014. He worked 48-50 hours a week at Hartford area restaurants, cooking and waiting tables. But he suffered sporadic symptoms of an inherited malady called hypertrophic cardiomyopathy. Marked by chest pain, fatigue and shortness of breath, the disease thickens and stiffens the heart muscle, reducing blood flow. Devkota said his sister died of the same illness two years ago.

He had gone to another Connecticut hospital for treatment, but was denied surgery due to his alcohol use and lack of a social support network, heart surgeon Dr. Muhammad Anwer of the Heart and Vascular Center said. Devkota acknowledged he was a chronic, heavy drinker. It



Ram Devkota, of North Haven, received a heart transplant April 17 at Yale New Haven Hospital. The Heart and Vascular Center at Yale New Haven is the only hospital in Connecticut using the Organ Care System, or "Heart in a Box," technology. STAN GODLEWSKI/SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

helped him sleep, he said.

Dr. Sounok Sen, a cardiologist at the Heart and Vascular Center, said hospital staff decided Devkota would benefit, at least in the short term, from a ventricular assist device, or VAD, a pump implanted in the heart, typically in the left ventricle, or LVAD, with a control unit and battery pack worn outside the body.

"We thought it would be something to give him some time to get back on his feet," Sen said.

Devkota, who has government-funded insurance, turned out to be an ideal patient, his caregivers said. He stopped drinking, listened to medical advice and made all his appointments.

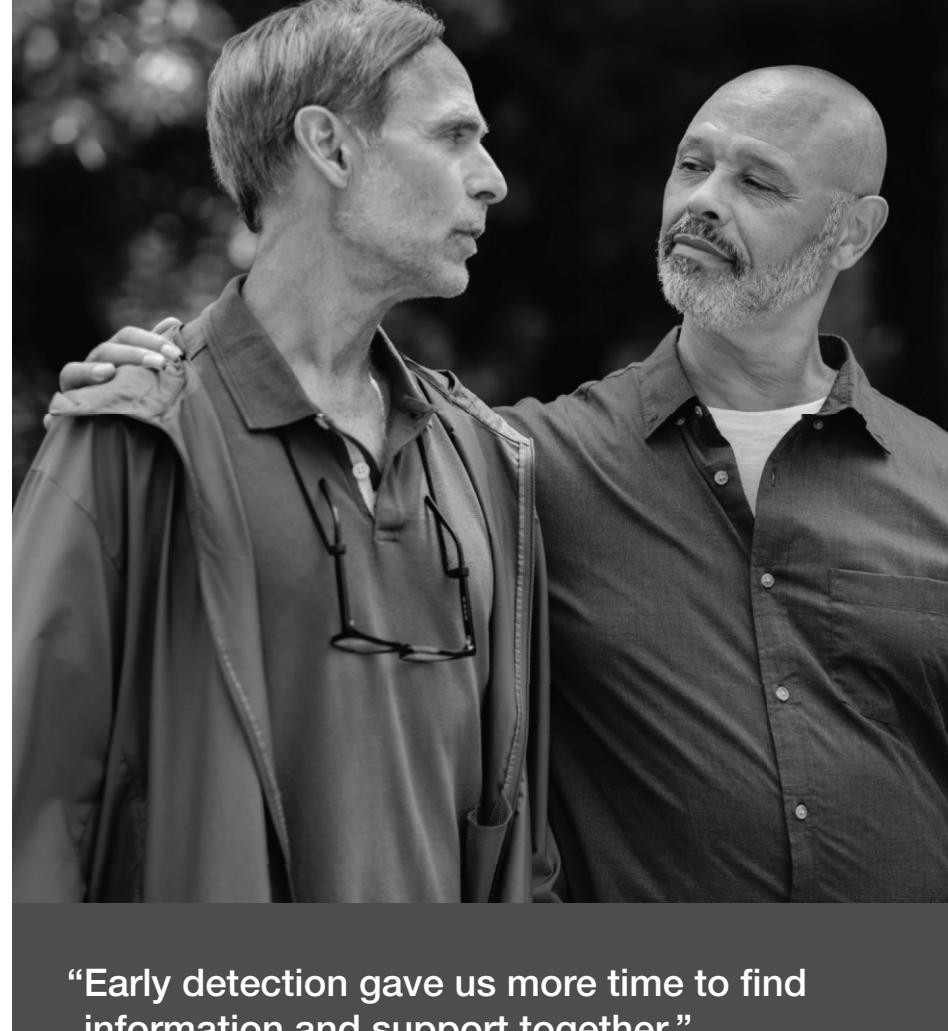
"Ram really impressed all of us," Nicol Baldino, the hospital's clinical VAD coordinator, said.

The ventricular pump provides lifesaving intervention for many people suffering from serious heart disease, but doctors decided that Devkota had proven worthy of a transplant with the Heart in a Box technology.

Devkota said he looks forward to marrying his girlfriend, and in the near future, seeing his mother who will be visiting from Nepal. The future is wide open.

"I feel born a second time," he said.

Jesse Leavenworth can be reached at jleavenworth@courant.com.



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**Guilford man pleads guilty to tax charge**

Feds: He bought boat, Range Rover and more with company money

Staff report

A Guilford man pleaded guilty to a federal tax offense stemming from his failure to pay business and personal taxes, according to federal authorities.

Christopher Jardine, 55, of Guilford waived his right to be indicted and pleaded guilty before U.S. District Judge Kari A. Dooley in Bridgeport, according to federal authorities.

Jardine, a part owner of D&A Construction Management Inc., a Branford-based company, was responsible for its "financial affairs," for collecting and paying federal taxes from the company's employees, including federal income taxes and Federal Insurance Contribution Act taxes, and that the company paid its share of FICA taxes, federal authorities said in a statement, citing court documents and statements made in court.

Federal authorities said the investigation revealed that, "although Jardine and D&A withheld employees' federal income and FICA taxes over multiple tax periods between 2016 and 2019 and reported those withholdings to the IRS, they failed to pay over the withheld amounts, totaling

approximately \$868,000."

"Jardine also represented to the IRS that D&A lacked the ability to pay, but he used millions of dollars in company funds to pay personal expenses, including purchases of a 52-foot cigarette boat, a Range Rover, high-end clothing, and auto parts, and to make payments on behalf of Straight Jacket USA LLC, a Guilford business" he controlled, federal authorities said in the statement.

Jardine pleaded guilty to one count of willful failure to pay over withholding taxes, federal authorities said in the statement.

In pleading guilty, "Jardine admitted that he evaded payment of the withheld employee taxes, as well as D&A's share of FICA taxes, for multiple quarters during the 2016 through 2019 tax years, and he also acknowledged that he evaded the payment of personal income tax liabilities for multiple tax years between 2007 and 2015," federal authorities said in the statement.

Jardine agreed to pay approximately \$2,070,000 in restitution to the IRS, an amount that includes interest and penalties, federal authorities said.

Dooley scheduled sentencing for July 28; Jardine, who is free on a \$50,000 bond, faces a maximum of five years in prison. Jardine has paid about \$1,197,600 in restitution to date, according to federal authorities.

Walkout

from Page 1

School officials declined to comment.

In an interview with The Courant, the post's author, who asked not to be named, said "The three of us, the girls, we felt like our voices weren't heard enough.

"It's just very, obviously, traumatizing, to see the student in the hallways."

Her father, who also asked not to be named, said a police investigation into the other student has ended. The family has now requested a Title IX investigation into that student, he said.

Administrators and police were

on scene during the protest, which students said lasted for about one hour.

According to other students who witnessed the protest, some students read poems and others called for administrators to do more to protect survivors.

In both the social media post and during an interview with The Courant, the post's author said she did not want to simply criticize Simsbury High School. Rather, she wanted to use the protest as an opportunity for students to come together and bring awareness to the stories of survivors.

Seamus McAvoy may be reached at smcavoy@courant.com.

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Growing crisis of housing affordability

When the government released March inflation data, it showed that prices increased by 8.5% from a year ago, the fastest pace since December 1981. Gas (+48.8%), food (+8.8%) and used cars (+35.3%) showed eye-popping advances, but another line item is also worrisome: shelter, which increased by 5% annually.

That may not seem so bad when compared to those other categories, but shelter accounted for nearly two-thirds of the monthly increase in the Core CPI, which removes the volatile food and energy figures.

The U.S. has a burgeoning housing affordability crisis, and it's likely to persist longer than high prices in grocery stores and at gas pumps.

The problem can be traced back to the bursting housing bubble of the 2000s. National home prices peaked in July 2006 and then bottomed out in February 2012, luring large investors to act. Private equity firms raised money, bought up as many distressed properties as they could, fixed them up and rented them out.

Although rents weren't going crazy yet, the money that these firms collected provided a better stream of income than they could find in the bond market, so they just held on.

The reduction in inventory, along with the slow pace of building in the aftermath of the housing crash, led to a shortage of homes and pushed up prices.

"Real house prices — prices adjusted for inflation — have steadily increased in the U.S. since 2012," according to analysis from the Federal Reserve Bank of Dallas.

The pandemic only exacerbated the problem as buyers — armed with excess savings and taking advantage of ultra-low mortgage rates — flooded markets and gobbled up whatever was available. As demand soared, prices dwarfed wage increases, damaging affordability. Evidence points to "abnormal U.S. housing market behavior for the first time since the boom of the early 2000s."

Before you start dusting off the Great Recession playbook, there are factors that may not spell disaster. Households are in better financial condition, and banks have not lost their minds with out-of-control lending. But those facts only lessen the risk of a full-blown financial crisis; they do not solve the affordability issue.

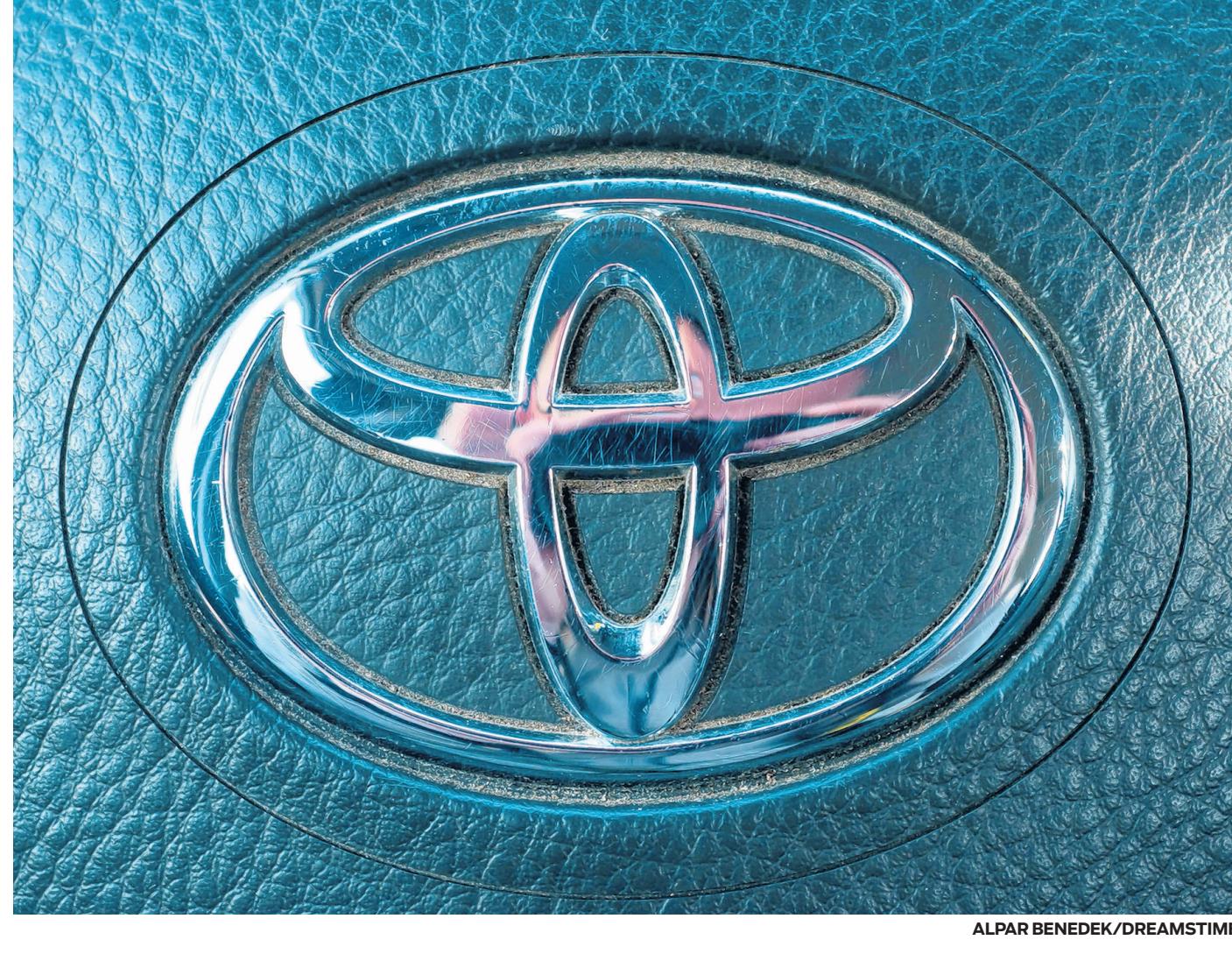
Just 15 months after mortgage rates bottomed out, 30-year fixed-rate mortgages have jumped above 5%, the highest in over a decade. That has made the cost of carrying a home for the typical buyer a lot more expensive. "The combination of rising mortgage rates, elevated home prices and tight inventory are making the pursuit of homeownership the most expensive in a generation," according to Freddie Mac.

The news is not much better for renters, who are also contending with higher prices. As of March, rents have increased 17% from a year ago and are growing at about four times the pre-pandemic pace. While some cities are addressing the problem with increased regulation to control increases, renters should be prepared to pay up and to explore alternatives prior to lease renewal.

That said, before you ditch the current place, remember that the cost of moving could be higher than the rent increase.

Talk to your landlord well in advance of renewal and remind them that you love where you live and want to stick around. See if you can limit the rental increase by signing a longer lease, or if you expect to earn more money later in the year, ask for a delay in the new price.

Jill Schlesinger, CFP, is a CBS News business analyst. A former options trader and CIO of an investment advisory firm, she welcomes comments and questions at askjill@jillonmoney.com. Check her website at www.jillonmoney.com.



ALPAR BENEDEK/DREAMSTIME

Crowdsource LIKE A PRO

4 essential tips from thousands of successful projects

By Darpan Munjal | Inc.

Today, it is easy to recognize this leading automobile manufacturer by its signature three-ellipsis logo. But in 1936, when it was starting out its motor division, Toyoda held a public competition for designing its initial logo. Not only did they pick a design from over 27,000 entries, it also led to a spin-off in the company's name.

That's how Toyoda, originally an automotive looms company named after its founder Kiichiro Toyoda, became Toyota, the automobile behemoth we know today.

That's crowdsourcing. And while it may sound like a modern buzzword, the above example shows that its roots go deep in history. With the power of social media and a world that is more connected than ever, crowdsourcing is far more prevalent today.

You can harness the power of a crowd to do almost anything, including naming a business, raising funds, designing a product, writing content and much more.

So what's the catch? And why are there so many horror stories about crowdsourcing today? It boils down to how well you execute your crowdsourcing campaign, and if you have the tools you need to manage your project correctly.

After managing over 30,000 successful crowdsourced naming projects, my company and I have developed a few key strategies that can maximize the success of your next crowdsourcing project.

1. Give enough background information

As a brand, you know what you want out of a crowdsourcing campaign better than anyone else. Always assume that the crowd knows nothing about who you are. So start from scratch. What must you tell them? What should they know about your product or service? What solution are you looking for? These questions help define the background.

If you're looking to name your fashion business, you can't be vague and hope that the crowd will be able to fill in the gaps. A

lot of people think they can start a branding project by just explaining their industry and the age of their audience.

For example, "We are a fashion brand selling to young adults." But clearly, this isn't enough. Think of the vastly diverse brands in the market today that sell to this audience.

If you work with a crowdsourcing community to come up with a name, you cannot expect them to build your entire brand story.

Similarly, you cannot raise funds through the crowd with a vague idea. The crowd won't fund a "trendy fashion brand" — they need much, much more.

2. Avoid controversy in your brief

A crowdsourced project starts by passing your ideas to the crowd, often in the form of a digital in-depth brief. The goal of the brief should be to eliminate any ambiguity about the campaign and state details in a clear and succinct manner.

So while writing the brief, at every stage ask if it's clear or if anything sounds vague? Read it out loud and get feedback from others. Also, consider if anything in the brief could be controversial in terms of race, religion, sex, nationality, etc.

For example: In 2013, Durex announced the launch of its emergency delivery app named Durex SOS to deliver condoms to couples wherever they were. As part of the campaign, it asked the crowd to vote on which city they should begin this service in.

The audience resorted to their usual trolling and chose the final outcome as Batman, Turkey to match to the superhero's name. But it turned out that Batman is a small conservative city, not ideal for the service Durex was trying to sell. As a result, the campaign was stopped.

To avoid such mishaps, try to visualize your campaign end-to-end from the point of view of someone who isn't related to the business. What hurdles might you run into? What do you need to avoid them? Define all such elements clearly in the brief.

3. Communicate, clarify and correct

Ensure that there are ample opportunities and avenues to engage with the community at multiple stages. This could mean answering their questions, clarifying your objective, providing additional information, etc.

For example, during a design project, you might decide to go another direction visually or change the tone from formal to casual.

Timely communication with the community can save the campaign and help you accomplish your renewed goals. Set regular milestones around when you plan to engage with the community.

4. Don't slack on giving feedback

One of my company's clients, a large hotel chain, liked a name that had been submitted by a creative. While the campaign was still underway, we gave specific and actionable feedback to the individual who had come up with the name. We told them what we liked, what worked for us and why we liked it.

Using our feedback, the creative pitched nine other names that also brilliantly hit the mark. None of these other names would have been possible if we didn't give feedback midway.

Give appropriate, actionable, helpful and detailed feedback when someone submits their suggestion.

In doing so, you help them be seen. This encourages them to be more invested in the project, come back with better ideas, and perhaps even remember your brand.

There's power in numbers, and crowdsourcing can help you mobilize that power. Yet by no means is it a passive process where you, as a brand, can pass the baton to the community entirely.

A crowdsourcing campaign's success depends largely on the information and background shared by you; the expectations, goals and rules set by you; and, most importantly, the support, engagement and feedback offered by you.

Adopt US Kids

I asked what kind of family Amina wanted. She said, 'A family like yours.' That's when I knew I had to adopt her.

Denise, adopted 17-year-old Amina



ad
COUNCIL

LEARN ABOUT
ADOPTING A TEEN
YOU CAN'T IMAGINE
THE REWARD

ADOPTUSKIDS.ORG

SUCCESS

Investing safely in 2022



DREAMSTIME

**Elliot Raphaelson***The Savings Game*

Many people who have invested in various forms of bond funds have been disappointed to see that, despite receiving regular interest payments, the value of their investment has decreased significantly in 2022. I have received quite a bit of mail from readers asking whether they should bail out of bond funds and instead make new investments in money-market funds, CDs or I bonds.

Here are some considerations you should take into account.

Bond funds: The Federal Reserve has indicated that for the rest of the year, it will raise interest rates several times in order to curb inflation. If you have investments in bond mutual funds or exchange-traded funds with long maturities, it's likely in the short run that the net asset value (NAV) of your investments will decrease and that, even with regular interest reinvested, the total value of your holdings may decrease in value.

For that reason, I don't recommend additional new investments in bond funds/ETFs with long maturities at this time.

Investments in short-term bond alternatives will have lower risk and lower yields.

Certificates of deposit: Many readers have asked whether this is a good time to be reinvesting proceeds from maturing CDs and funds from savings accounts with low yields into new CDs. As the Fed increases interest rates, banks and credit unions will likely offer higher rates on CDs. I expect interest rates on CDs to increase gradually, so it would be prudent to invest in shorter-term CDs now; as interest rates increase, you can invest in longer-term CDs.

One of the advantages of investing in CDs as opposed to bond funds now is that, as you redeem your CD at maturity, your principal is safe. There is no guarantee that new investments in bond funds, even in Treasury instruments, will not decrease in value in the short term.

Money market funds: If your main objective is to stay liquid while protecting your capital, you can invest in money market instruments. However, with inflation likely to stay at high levels in the short run, the returns you receive will not keep pace with inflation.

I bonds: As I have written in recent columns, Investing in Series I bonds has a significant advantage now, as well as one disadvantage that I don't think is significant.

The major advantage is the high rate of return with no capital risk. You can invest in I bonds only through the U.S. Treasury at TreasuryDirect.gov. In April 2022, the interest rate was 7.12%. Starting in May, the interest rate is 9.62% for six months. The combined rate over the next 12

months will be 8.54% for existing I bonds and those bought by April 28, 2022.

After October, there will be a new rate, based on the updated consumer price index. Although the next new six-month rate may be lower than 9.62%, you can be sure that the rate of return will be higher than the return from CDs, or money-market instruments.

The main disadvantage of investing in I bonds is liquidity. Once you purchase an I bond, you can't sell it for 12 months; if you do sell it in less than five years, you lose three months of interest. Individuals cannot purchase more than \$10,000 in one calendar year. Married couples can invest \$20,000 per year. In addition, you can invest an additional \$5,000 per year with a tax refund.

You cannot lose money on your investment in I bonds. When you compare investing in I bonds to investing in CDs, savings accounts and money market instruments, I bonds stand out as a superior choice for conservative investors (as long as you can accommodate the one-year holding period).

Treasury bills and notes: For short-term investments, you can purchase Treasury bills directly from TreasuryDirect.gov without a brokerage account. You can invest in bills that mature in six or 12 months. The recent rate for six-month bills was almost 1.2%, and the 12-month rate was 1.7%; another option is the two-year Treasury note yielding 2.3%.

Elliot Raphaelson welcomes your questions and comments at raphaelson@gmail.com.

**Terry Savage**
The Savage Truth

Redeeming matured bonds

Investor interest in savings bonds is higher than it has been in recent years. As I explained several months ago, Series I bonds, which adjust to inflation, had a yield of 7.12% for the six months ending May 1. The rate for the coming six months is expected, as I write this, to be 9.62%.

The only place to buy savings bonds now is through the online government website, TreasuryDirect.gov, where it's easy to set up an account and make your purchase with money taken directly from your bank account. You must hold the savings bonds for at least one year. And if you sell before holding for five years, you'll lose the last three months of earned interest.

There is a limit of \$10,000 per person per year for purchases of these electronic savings bonds. You can also buy up to \$5,000 per year in paper bonds using your tax refund.

But with all the attention on today's high rates for bond purchases, there's another issue that many savings bond owners face: what to do with your old Series EE savings bonds as they mature and stop earning interest. At that point they must be redeemed.

Series EE bonds were first issued in 1980. All Series EE bonds mature after 30 years and stop paying interest. Series I bonds were first issued in 1998, so none have matured yet.

Find the value of your old paper savings bonds at TreasuryDirect.gov using their savings bond calculator. Enter the denomination, issue date and serial number from the paper bond to get its current value and maturity date.

Don't jump to cash in old savings bonds just based on the current market value. Many older bonds may carry high "base rates" that will last the life of the bond, along with current inflation adjustments.

When you cash the bonds, you will owe ordinary income taxes on all the accrued income (unless you were one of the very few who elected to pay taxes along the way). Treasury or the financial institution that cashed the bonds will send you a 1099 for your taxes.

That gain could impact the taxability of your Social Security benefits, or even your Medicare Part B premium if you have a big jump in income in any one year. Consult your tax adviser before redeeming bonds.

In the olden days, practically every bank would sell and redeem savings bonds. Not so today. If your bank doesn't cash savings bonds (and many don't, especially for non-customers), you can send the bonds — unsigned — to the Treasury Department, along with Form FS 1522, which can be downloaded from TreasuryDirect.gov.

But here's the catch: That form must have your signature "guaranteed" by a bank. And many banks won't notarize or guarantee the form for non-customers.

The only other option is to open a digital account at TreasuryDirect.gov. There you will create a "bond manifest" listing your savings bonds by registration, serial number and issue date. They will be converted into electronic bonds, which you can easily sell, with the proceeds sent electronically to your bank account or used to purchase new Treasury securities, such as new high-yielding Series I bonds. You will still have to mail the unsigned bonds to the Treasury along with the conversion form created at TreasuryDirect.gov.

If the bond's owner is deceased and no co-owner is listed, the beneficiary must present proof in the form of a certified death certificate, an estate document (will or trust) and the unsigned bonds, along with Form 5336 or Form 5394. This is best done in person at a bank, but it can also be uploaded through TreasuryDirect.gov into a new digital account for the beneficiary.

If you transfer a bond, you pay taxes on all the accrued interest until the date of transfer. The person given the bond will pay taxes on earnings from that point forward. If you simply add a name to the bond ownership, it is not a taxable event.

Important: Savings bonds do not get a step up in basis at death, so the estate will owe taxes when the bonds are cashed.

Buying savings bonds is easy these days, but it pays to know the rules when it comes to cashing them in. That's the Savage Truth.

Terry Savage is a registered investment adviser and the author of four best-selling books. She responds to questions on her blog at TerrySavage.com.

You should learn to laugh at yourself

By Stephanie Vozza

Fast Company

Laughter can be good medicine. According to the Mayo Clinic, laughing has short- and long-term effects on your health. As you bring in more oxygen, it stimulates your heart, lungs and muscles. Laughing increases the endorphins that are released by your brain, and it cools down your stress response. Over a longer period of time, laughter can improve your immune system, relieve pain and increase personal satisfaction.

While it's easy to laugh at something funny, the ability to laugh at yourself can help you address the challenges that could be holding you back in your career and life, says Dr. Brian Kaplan, author of "Almost Happy: Pushing Your Buttons with Reverse Psychology."

"To laugh at one's self is an excellent thing," he says. "Humor can be a very powerful way of helping people, proving that helping doesn't have to be a solemn experience."

Kaplan studied the work of Frank Farrell, an innovative therapist who founded Provocative Therapy in the 1960s. Provocative Therapy uses humor and reverse psychology to provoke people to change. With the person's explicit permission, you repeat what you hear their "sub-selves" saying and you do it with humor, warmth and affection.

"We all have sub-selves, or sub-person-

alities, such as our inner child," Kaplan says. "That's a nice use of a sub-self. But you also have sub-selves that dominate us. They're loud, grab the microphone and dominate the whole personality."

For example, you may relate to a sub-self of the workaholic. You could justify that you need to work 15 hours a day because you're paying for your children's education, a new house or a vacation home.

Laugh at yourself by reaffirming the workaholic's devotion to work. For example, you can tell yourself, "You should definitely spend all your time focusing on making more money and acquiring more businesses or investing in the market. Your children will be judged by their clothes and vacations. They don't need you; they need your money."

"When you can laugh at that side — especially when it's a bit over the top — then you can laugh

at that part of you that's sabotaging yourself," Kaplan says. "That moment of laughter provides a window of opportunity to recognize what's holding you back and prescribe your own solution. And laughter and the warmth of it is like a medicine that allows you to deal with something that's often quite painful."

In his book, Kaplan identifies more than 100 sub-selves that could be holding you back. They include being a people pleaser, robot, doormat, critic and ego maniac.

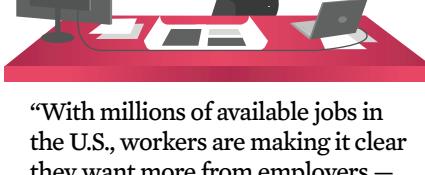
"Mark Twain once said, 'Against the assault of laughter, nothing can stand,'" Kaplan says. "Once you're laughing at the sub-self, you're acutely aware of it. Normally, you don't think of the trait as a sub-self. When it takes you over, you think 'I'm angry' or 'I'm under stress,' because the sub-self has taken your whole personality there. When you can identify it as a part of you and not your entire being, you can quiet it down."



STEPHEN COBURN/DREAMSTIME

With millions of job openings, workers are making clear what they want

According to Employ Inc.'s 2022 Job Seeker Nation Report, which gathered responses from more than 1,500 U.S. workers, a majority of job seekers believe it's easier to find a job this year than in the previous year, and one-third of workers feel comfortable quitting a job without having another lined up.



"With millions of available jobs in the U.S., workers are making it clear they want more from employers — and they feel empowered to ask for it," said Allie Kelly, chief marketing officer at Employ Inc.



Remote work
"Consider that nearly half of workers are willing to accept a lower salary to work remotely, and 30 percent said their ideal workplace setup is 100 percent remote," said Kelly. Although the desire for more workplace flexibility is strong, company culture also remains critical. More than half believe that culture is just as important in an increasingly remote work environment, and one-third of workers who left a job in the first 90 days said it was due to poor company culture.



Learning and development opportunities
Continued growth, training, and education is a priority for workers today. However, many employers fall short. According to Employ, only 24 percent of workers receive learning and development opportunities from their employer. "Learning and development is integral to internal mobility — a recruiting focus that many companies lack, since 54 percent of workers active in the job search have not looked at their current company for a new position," said Kelly.



Higher compensation
Money is top of mind for workers, with half believing they could make more simply by switching jobs. Employers who fall short on compensation expectations may see an increase in turnover or candidate rejection. According to Kelly, if a business can't compete with considerable salary increases, try "accommodating with other forms of compensation." This may include a signing bonus, more paid time off, equity, a bonus for hitting specific targets, an accelerated promotion timeline, or a more flexible schedule.

SOURCE: Marcel Schwantes, Inc.

OBITUARIES BY TOWN**Avon**

Karen Dieckman
Gregory N. Lijedahl

Bloomfield

Maggie Abebrese
Philip N. Pearson
Hugh D. Walker

Bristol

Roland Dumond
Charlotte Morehouse

Burlington

Carol L. Ross

Canton

Jerry J. Joiner

Cromwell

Eloy Roca

East Granby

Jeffrey E. Fournier
Richard H. West

East Hartford

Aurthur M. Berg

Paul J. Ianni

Ellington

Eileen B. Wachsmann

Enfield

Sonya Geng

Farmington

Howard E. West, Jr.

Glastonbury

Vincent D'Aloisio
Leigh C. Ersevam

Mary Lou Hassan

Warren W. Lutz

Brenda Sullivan

Granby

Jeffrey Berard

Aurthur M. Berg

Jerry J. Joiner

Hartford

Princess A. Bowen
Robert N. French

Sonya Geng

Joan W. Grenham

Alfred F. LeFebvre

Patsy A. Owens

Yvonne Stephens

Alexandrine M. West

Richard H. West

Thomas E. Worth

Manchester

Kim I. Horan

Clarence Mikoleit, Jr.

Diane Saulnier

Virginia Wehner

Marlborough

Mary Lou Hassan

Middletown

Harry E. Benham II
Eloy Roca

New Britain

Rajmund Ciurzynski
Carol L. Ross

Newington

Robert N. French
Rita D. Kochanowicz

Kathryn Ann Whitford

Old Saybrook

Harry E. Benham II

Other Towns in CT

Jeffrey Berard

Cynthia E. Clarke

Dolores G. Davis

Derrick J. Donahue

Sharon Gazda

Thomas Joyce, Sr.

Laura K. Keeve

Alfred F. LeFebvre

Charlotte Morehouse

Muriel A. Rathier

Plainville

Corinne P. Bosse

Rocky Hill

Peter F. Storms

Simsbury

Cynthia E. Clarke

Karen Dieckman

Gregory N. Lijedahl

Warren W. Lutz

Alexandrine M. West

South Windsor

Georgianna Theriault

Suffield

Barbara J. Holder

Vernon

Brenda Sullivan

Waterbury

Virginia Wehner

West Hartford

Maureen Daly Campanelli

Joan W. Grenham

Eileen Hollman

Kim I. Horan

Anthony J. Leesha

Diane Saulnier

Thomas E. Worth

Wethersfield

Pamela J. Moore

Peter F. Storms

Windsor

Roland Dumond

Jeffrey E. Fournier

Sharon Gazda

Marliss Marks

Muriel A. Rathier

* Denotes name listing only.

Please note: not all death notices are in alphabetical order.

OBITUARIES**Abebrese, Maggie**

Maggie Mae Smith-Abebrese, 75, of Bloomfield, entered internal peace on April 16, 2022, surrounded by her loving family members. Maggie, one of nine children was born December 12, 1946, in Eufaula, Alabama to the late Johnny Lee and Mary-Anne Smith. Maggie would later relocate to New Haven, CT, Hartford, CT, and finally settling in Bloomfield, CT.

While living in New Haven, Maggie was employed at Yale New Haven University and after moving to Hartford, The Institute of Living. After her time at The Institute of Living, Maggie decided to pursue a career in the medical field. She successfully obtained her certification as a Nursing Assistant, and was employed at Avon Health Care Center, and retired after many years of service. Maggie was a loving wife, mother, grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, and friend. Maggie was also a mentor, and confidant to many. She will fondly be remembered by those who knew her as a woman of character, integrity, wisdom, and conviction. Whenever possible she made sure to lend an ear or simply an encouraging word to those who needed it. Maggie had a heart that was full of love, generosity, patience and understanding. She genuinely embraced making memories with her family that would last a lifetime. One of which included the family's routine visit to the local buffets after Sunday church services, specifically, Ponderosa, Old Country Buffet, and Hometown Buffet.

Maggie had a passion and commitment for taking care of children and this was greatly demonstrated by not only raising her own children, but through caring for her grandchildren and others in the community. This was also evident as she owned and operated Maggie's Day Care for many years, something which she was extremely proud of.

Maggie had a close and personal relationship with her Lord and Savior. She was a devoted member of Christ Church of Deliverance for over forty years, under the leadership of Bishop Fredrick Jackson, and the late Suffragan Bishop Andrew Clancy. She served dutifully on the Baptism Committee as well as the Missionary Choir. Whenever possible, Maggie enjoyed watching some of her favorite tv shows, and listening to some of her favorite gospel music. One of her all-time favorites was "I won't complain".

The passing of Maggie will leave a permanent ache in the hearts of those who knew and loved her. Maggie leaves to cherish her memories, Her loving husband of over 30 years David Adjeikum-Abebrese; birth daughter Rosa Hill-Asberry(Glen); children Michael Smith, Kelvin Smith, Kyle Pitts, Tiffany Smith-Chisholm(John), Darwin Jackson, Destiny Hamilton Christian Abebrese, and Malachi Abebrese and two bonus children, Billy and Kenneth Hamilton; 6 step children in London, England and Ghana Africa ; Grandchildren, Viage, Isaac, Jordan J., Jordan T., Kimora, Deyana, Cora, Ameer, De'Mya, Job, Kenya; Siblings, two brothers, Clarence Smith(Virginia) New Haven, CT, Johnny Lee-Smith(Helen), Windsor, CT and one Sister Mary Smith-Turner East Windsor CT and host of nieces, nephews, and other relatives

Maggie was preceded in death by son Oscar Hill; sisters; Louise Welbourn, Jannie Calloway, Evergreen Smith, Emma Atkins, Irene Robinson, and one Brother Willie Decree.

Funeral services will be held 11am, Friday, May 6, 2022, at Christ Church Deliverance, 159 Blue Hills Ave., Hartford, CT. The family will receive friends prior from 10am-11am. For the complete obituary and online condolences, visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

Fournier, Jeffrey Edward

Jeffrey Edward Fournier, 68, of East Granby, beloved husband for 35 years of Sayre (Selden) Fournier, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 28, 2022, at UConn Medical Center after a year-long battle with Adult T-Cell Lymphoma. Born in Springfield, MA on February 20, 1954, son of Robert and Dorothy (McCall) Fournier of Simsbury, he was raised in Windsor and was a graduate of

Windsor High School, Class of 1972. After high school, Jeff continued his education at Manchester Community College and Southern Connecticut State University where he graduated with his Bachelor's in 1977. After working for several years, Jeff later returned to school at UConn where he completed his Masters Degree in Therapeutic Recreation in 1982. Jeff started his career at Hillside Manor in Hartford and also worked at St. Mary's Home in West Hartford before taking a position with Duncaster in Bloomfield in 1984. The campus was slowly being constructed as Jeff planned programs for the new residents as the Director of Life Enrichment. Over the next 38 years, Jeff and his Golden Retrievers, Caleb, Caleb II, and Cabo, cared for thousands of Duncaster residents, their families, and the other staff members. At the time of his passing, Jeff was the longest serving employee at Duncaster, a place that he loved going to every day and that never felt like work. Jeff gave back to his profession by serving in many capacities including several terms as President of the Connecticut Association of Recreation Therapists. A natural athlete, Jeff played sports while growing up and continued playing in adult soccer leagues after college. For the past several years, he had joined his twin brother in the Kaman Golf League every Wednesday during the Spring and Summer months. Jeff's passion for sports, especially soccer, led him to coach his two sons as they were growing up in East Granby. A natural leader, he lovingly coached East Granby recreational and travel soccer teams and later served as President of the East Granby Soccer Association for many years. He loved watching college and professional sports and was a lifelong Boston Red Sox, Celtics, and NY Giants fan, and UConn Men's & Women's Basketball and Soccer fan. In his spare time, he enjoyed traveling and took many cruises over the years with his family as well as many trips to his time share in Cabo San Lucas, Mexico. Most of all, Jeff enjoyed the simple pleasures in life, gardening around his home and spending time with family and friends. Jeff was a longtime member of Trinity Episcopal Church in the Tariffville section of Simsbury where he served on the Vestry and volunteered caring for the landscaping and grounds around the church which he loved. In addition to his wife, Sayre and his parents, Robert and Dorothy, he leaves a son, Benjamin Ramey Fournier of East Granby; his siblings, James Fournier and his wife Mercedes of Hartford, his twin brother, John Fournier and his wife Donna of Windsor, Joseph Fournier and his wife Alisha of Stamford, and Ellen Seifert and her husband Walter of West Hartford; a brother-in-law, John Selden and his wife Penny of Littleton, CO; 10 nieces and nephews; four great-nieces; and his beloved dog, Cabo. He was predeceased by a son, Matthew McCall Fournier in 2006; his father and mother-in-law, Boynton "Tony" and Michele Selden; and a sister-in-law, Deborah Burton. His family will receive friends on Thursday, May 5, 4-7 p.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church, 11 Church St., Tariffville. A memorial service will be held on Friday, May 6, 11 a.m., at Trinity Episcopal Church in Tariffville with the Rev. Taylor Albright officiating. Burial will follow in Elmwood Cemetery, East Granby. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Duncaster, Attn: Caleb Hitchcock Life Enrichment, 40 Loeffler Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002, Duncaster, Attn: Team Duncaster, 40 Loeffler Rd., Bloomfield, CT 06002, or to Trinity Episcopal Church, 11 Church St., Tariffville, CT 06081. Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home in Granby has care of the arrangements. For online condolences and to view the services live or after, Friday, May 6th at 11 a.m., please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Horan, Kim I.

Kim I. Horan, age 67, of West Hartford, CT passed away peacefully at the Hospital for Special Care surrounded by family on April 26, 2022, after a long courageous battle with the ALS disease. Kim was born in Fort Sill, Oklahoma on April 26, 1955 to the late James R. McArdle and Alyce (Carlson) McArdle. She graduated from Manchester High School in Manchester, CT in 1973. Kim married her husband, Tom J. Horan, Jr., on April 26, 1988 and they were married for 28 years. Tom passed away in May of 2016. Kim worked for the United States Postal Service and retired after 30 years. She enjoyed traveling many places with her late husband and has missed him terribly. Kim volunteered regularly at her grandchildren's school and enjoyed working with the young children. She was a kind person, devoted wife, wonderful sister, loving mother, and loyal friend. She enjoyed spending time with her family and friends and loved her grandchildren very much.

Kim is survived by her four children; Sonia Mancini (Ted) of West Hartford, CT, Dayan Bedingfield (Bud) of West Hartford, CT, Thomas Horan III of New Britain, CT and Jacqueline Sargent of South Windsor, CT; sisters Kathleen Knox (David) of Andover, CT and Karen Maidment (David) of Bolton, CT; grandchildren Anthony, Michael, and Angela Mancini of West Hartford, CT, Jackson and Luke Bedingfield of West Hartford, CT, Alexa Horan of New Britain, CT, Michael Sargent (Kelly) of Ashford, CT, Matthew Sargent of Ellington, CT; two great-grandchildren Ashlyn and Aiden Sargent of Ashford, CT and her four wonderful nephews James, Jason, Nathan, and Jonathan and great niece Avery. Kim would like to thank the ALS Association Connecticut Chapter and the staff in the Respiratory Unit at the Hospital for Special Care in New Britain for their care for many years. Kim wanted Tom to know that "Missy Boss Face" is meeting him on the other side and can't wait to see him to celebrate their anniversary celebration.

A Memorial Service will be Monday, May 9, 2022, at 11:00am at the Center Congregational Church, 11 Center Street, Manchester, CT 06040. Burial will be private and at a later date. Memorial donations may be made to the ALS Association "Connecticut" Chapter, 4 Oxford Road, Unit E4, Milford, CT 06460 or online at <https://www.als.org/connecticut>. Online condolences may be made at www.sheehanhilbornbreen.com.

Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME

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OBITUARIES

Campanelli, Maureen Daly

Maureen Daly Campanelli passed away peacefully on April 15, 2022, at the age of 85. "Mo" or "Moie", as she was affectionately called, was smart, insightful, funny, generous and caring. She always put others before herself and made an enormous impact on the people in her life. Maureen and her devoted husband Tony were married for 64 years. She unfailingly committed herself to her children and grandchildren, pushing them to be better versions of themselves, but insuring there was a ton of fun along the way. Maureen instilled in her family a work ethic and strong religious sensibilities. Family and faith were Maureen's passions and guided every aspect of her life. She considered her faith the special ingredient in her family's happiness. Maureen taught them to trust in the Lord, pray often, always go to church, be especially good to one another and show God's love to others. Her unwavering belief gave her the courage and strength to persevere and never give up. She also considered her friends to be blessings and developed cherished relationships in Connecticut and Florida. Her friendships were filled with laughter and meaningful life moments. Maureen also was bold about expressing her great pride in her 12 grandchildren, the special bond they all share and sense of family they learned from Grandma "Moie".

Maureen was a lifelong resident of West Hartford, CT and over the last 22 years spent winters in Naples, FL. She is survived by her loving husband Anthony; her five adored children, Patti (Ross) Joel, Jean (Steven) Lavelle, Paul (Kelly) Campanelli, Anne (George) Flynn, and Christine (Dana) Gillis and her twelve treasured grandchildren Morgan and Allie Joel, Katie, Tim and Maureen Lavelle, Caroline, Francesca and Nick Campanelli, Carter (Joe Moses) and Reagan Flynn, Hannah and Sarah Gillis. The family would like to extend its gratitude to all the wonderful nurses and caregivers at Avow Hospice of Naples for the compassionate care Maureen received in her final months. A Mass of Christian Burial will be July 29, 2022 at 11:00 a.m. at St. Thomas the Apostle Church in West Hartford, CT. Burial will follow at Fairview Cemetery. In lieu of flowers and to honor Maureen, donations may be made to the Cure Alzheimer's Fund (<https://curealz.org/giving/in-memory>) 34 Washington St., Suite 310 Wellesley, MA 02481 or Saint Thomas the Apostle School in West Hartford (<https://www.stthomasapostle.org/ways-to-support-sta>) 25 Dover Rd. West Hartford, CT 06119. Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com.

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Moore, Pamela Jean

Pamela Jean Moore, M.D. passed away peacefully on October 10, 2021, with family by her bedside after a courageous battle with cancer. A caring daughter, sister, and aunt as well as an accomplished medical doctor, she was a friend and mentor to many. Pamela, who was a longtime resident of Wethersfield, Connecticut, was born in North Adams, Massachusetts in 1949 and spent her childhood in Pownal, Vermont. She is survived by her brother Randy Moore and his wife Anne, and their two children, Jack and Emily, and several cousins. Pamela was predeceased by her parents, Dexter J.C. Moore and Jayne Marie Moore, and her sister, Patti Lynne Moore. A visitation will be held on May 6, 2022 between 5:00 and 7:00 PM at the Farley-Sullivan Funeral Home located at 34 Beaver Road in Wethersfield, Connecticut. A memorial service will be held at the Bethany Lutheran Church located at 1655 Boulevard, West Hartford, Connecticut on May 7, 2022 beginning at 11:00 AM. Pamela will be interred on a later date at the family's burial site in North Adams, Massachusetts during a private family ceremony. In Pamela's honor, please consider a donation to the Bethany Lutheran Church's Music Ministry. For full obituary please visit FarleySullivan.com.

**Farley-Sullivan
Funeral Home**

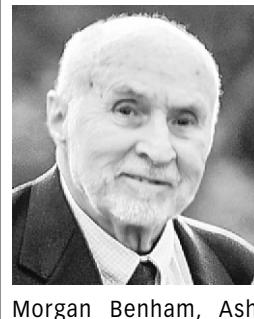
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Storms, Peter F.

Peter F. Storms, 88, of Rocky Hill, born the son of the late William F. Storms, MD and Marion (Collins) Storms, passed away peacefully at home with his family by his side on Sunday, April 24, 2022. He leaves his loving wife of 57 years, Nancy (Amrein) Storms; three children, Mark W. Storms of Breckenridge, CO, Douglas A. Storms of Watertown, MA and Karen E. Lehr and her husband Kirk Lehr of Mt. Pleasant, MI and four grandchildren, Ruth Lehr, Bethany Lehr, Hannah Lehr and Benjamin Lehr. He is also survived by his brother, James A. Storms and his wife Robin Storms of Essex; two sisters-in-law, Sally S. Storms of Troy, NY and Martha A. Hayes and her husband William Hayes of Stafford Springs and a brother-in-law, Philip C. Amrein, MD and his wife Karen (Donelan) Amrein of Belmont, MA. Peter was predeceased by two brothers, Charles A. Storms and Thomas W. Storms. Born in Hartford on April 13, 1934, Peter grew up in Wethersfield and was graduate of Wethersfield High School and Middlebury College with an AB in Math. After graduation from college, he served in the U.S. Army, stationed in the Philippines. His work experience was a 37-year career at The Travelers Insurance Company, rising to the level of Senior Vice President in Corporate Finance, followed by nine years at Arthur Andersen as a specialist in regulatory insurance accounting and then nine years as a consultant with Risk and Regulatory Consulting. Peter did volunteer work as a driver for Connecticut Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind and as a counselor for AARP Tax Aide, preparing taxes in Wethersfield and Rocky Hill. In his spare time, Peter enjoyed Sunfish sailing on Lake George, NY, golfing and downhill skiing. In recent years, he skied with the 70+ Ski Club on trips to Vermont and Salt Lake City. He had been a longtime, active member of the Wethersfield United Methodist Church. There will be a Memorial Service on Saturday, May 21 at 11 a.m. at the Wethersfield United Methodist Church, 150 Prospect Street, Wethersfield. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family and there are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, donations in Peter's memory may be made to the WUMC or to a charity of the donor's choice. The D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, Wethersfield has been entrusted with the arrangements. To share a memory of Peter with his family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.

**D'Esopo
Funeral Chapel**

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Benham II, Harry (Ted) E

Harry E. Benham II age 80, formerly of Westbrook, CT, passed away unexpectedly April 20th of natural causes. Harry is survived by his children; Amy Benham of NC, Nancy Benham Pare(Martin) of Enfield, CT, Jon Benham (Stacey) of Portland, CT, five grandchildren; Benjamin Rochette, Tyle Riedinger (Camille), Bryan Rochette, Morgan Benham, Ashley Benham, and his brother Albert Benham of FL.

Harry was born in Pawtucket RI and his family later moved to Wyckoff NJ and finally settled in CT to raise his family. He spent his professional career in manufacturing and his retirement as a school bus driver where he thoroughly enjoyed interacting with the students.

He wishes to spend his eternity scuba diving at his favorite beach in RI. A private ceremony will be held at the convenience of the family.

Donations may be made in Harry's name to: The Westbrook Foundation Inc, Lew Daniels Scholarship Fund, PO Box 528, Westbrook, CT 06498.

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DeTora, Mark W

Mark Warner DeTora passed away at home on April 7, 2022 from a sudden cardiac event. Born in Middletown, CT on September 7, 1946, Mark was the son of the late Dr. Albert Michael DeTora and Dorothy Warner DeTora. He was predeceased by his much loved younger brother, Bruce, as well as his older sister, Linda. He attended Stafford High School before earning a Bachelor's Degree in English from Brown University and an MBA from Southern Illinois University.

During his time at Brown, Mark excelled at both academics and soccer. He was inducted into the Brown Hall of Fame twice-- once as a member of the 1967 team and again as an individual. As a member of the 1967 team, Mark was part of one of only two teams to go undefeated in a season in 95 years of Brown soccer. He was a prolific striker who ranked seventh on Brown's all-time career scoring list and also ranked seventh in the all-time assist table. On a personal level, Mark relished the Brown-Harvard rivalry when he played against his brother Bruce. Mark's love of the game would lead him to play for various men's leagues after college, coach his children in soccer and encourage his grandchildren to share in his passion. He was also an enthusiastic Yankees fan who could be seen dancing his own special dance to the opening theme song during each game.

A man of integrity, dedication and accomplishment, Mark had a rewarding career that began as a pilot in the US Air Force where he bravely served in the Vietnam War. While in the Air Force, Mark earned the rank of Captain and became a C141 pilot, flying all over the globe. He eventually transitioned into the business world, where he was known to have high expectations of himself and others. Mark valued hard work, honesty and put others before himself. He enjoyed a 25 year career in the insurance industry, including 15 years at Sun Life Financial. Mark retired in 2007 from Sun Life Financial where he was the Senior Vice President of Individual Insurance & Investments. Mark is remembered by colleagues for his ability to get the right people in the right job, developing his staff and changing the trajectory of their careers.

Mark was fortunate to retire by age sixty to spend his days between his children's homes and the golf course. He delighted in attending performances, sporting events and various lessons with his grandchildren. One of the highlights of Mark's summers was swimming in the ocean with his granddaughters and golfing with his sons-in-law in Nonquitt, MA. An avid reader, Mark challenged himself to learn to cook and speak Italian. He made many wonderful friends in his second home of West Palm Beach and was known as a skilled player who valued good sportsmanship and recently shot his age.

Mark will be remembered by all who knew him as a caring, loyal family man who enjoyed travel, golf, soccer, running and reading, but most of all loved time with his family. He rejoiced in family dinners and taking his children and grandchildren to Europe, particularly to Italy, which held a special place in his heart. Mark loved music, good food and teaching his grandchildren all he could. He was an intelligent, compassionate soul who supported those close to his heart by sharing advice, celebrating successes, counseling and consoling in hard times, and giving strong, warm hugs. He would drop everything to help those close to him and loved fiercely. To his children, he was the center of their world-- the most caring, dependable parent for which they could have hoped. While he imparted so much wisdom to his children and grandchildren, they will be lost without him and his unwavering love and devotion.

Mark's memory will be cherished by his adoring children, Tracy DeTora and Steve Wright, Michelle DeTora and Mike Cameron, Kerry DeTora and Chris Leavey, and Tony DeTora, as well as his loving sister Alice DeTora and Gary Reynolds. Affectionately known as Nono, Mark will live on in the hearts of his seven grandchildren, Mabel, Gemma, Alice, Iris, Lucy, Colin and Elliot, who were his greatest joy in the world. He will also be missed by his niece and nephews, Lisa, Michael, Adam and Ben and his brother Ken. Le nostre vite saranno sicuramente meno luminose senza di lui - our lives will surely be less bright without him.

A private service and burial will be held in Florence, Italy.

In lieu of flowers, gifts may be made to Dana-Farber Cancer Institute to support cancer research at: Dana-Farber Cancer Institute P.O. Box 849168 Boston, MA 02284

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Wehner, Virginia

Virginia Clark Wehner, 93, of East Hartford, loving wife of 52 years of the late Walter J. Wehner, Jr., peacefully entered into eternal life on April 27, 2022 at her home at the Arbors in Manchester, CT. Born in Waterbury on February 9, 1929 and moved to West Haven at age 2, the daughter of the late Vincent H. and Margaret (Gilmartin)

Clark. Ginny was a graduate of St. Lawrence School, West Haven High School and UConn Class of 1950, where she was a member of Pi Beta Phi. She received her Master's degree in Education, at age 57 from CCSU. A devout Catholic, Ginny was a faithful communicant of St. Isaac Jogues church. She was a Eucharistic minister for 28 years with her husband Walter. Virginia was awarded the Archdiocesan Medal of Appreciation by Archbishop Mansell for all her dedication and volunteer work at St. Isaac Jogues church. She taught CCD, held many offices in the Ladies Guild and on the church council. She began her teaching career at West Haven High School. After moving to East Hartford, she taught at Windsor High School until the birth of her first child. Later, she was a full-time substitute for 17 years at East Hartford High School, and ended her career teaching at East Catholic High School retiring in 1988. In retirement, Walt and Ginny traveled extensively visiting all 50 states, and 18 European countries. They attended 58 Elder Hostels, many with their old high school and college friends. She was a Life Member of the UConn Alumni Association, a Golden Arrow member of Pi Beta Phi and a member of the Luna Social Club. One of her favorite places was Lake Winnipesaukee, New Hampshire where she vacationed with her family every summer for over 50 years. Another favorite spot was Disney World, where she and Walt visited 25 times over the years. Virginia is survived by her three children, David and his wife Barbara of Willimantic, Paul and his wife Lia of Fairfield, and Joyce and her husband Rick of Travelers Rest, SC and their two sons, Zachary and Kyle. She was preceded in death by Susan Wehner, the first wife of her son Paul. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made in Virginia's name to East Catholic High School, 115 New State Road, Manchester, CT 06042.

A wake will be held at Newkirk and Whitney Funeral Home, 318 Burnside Ave, East Hartford, CT on Monday May 2, 2022 from 5PM-7PM. A brief gathering before church on Tuesday May 3, 2022 from 9AM-930AM. The funeral service will be held at St. Mary church on Tuesday May 3, 2022 at 10AM. She will be buried beside Walter at St. Mary's cemetery.

She will always be remembered by her beautiful smile, her infectious laugh and her loving and kind heart.

Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.NewkirkandWhitney.com for the Wehner family.

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Lutz, Warren W

Warren William Lutz, 91, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 26th. Warren was the only child born to William and Elizabeth (Morganthal) Lutz in NY, NY on June 8, 1930. He attended McBurney High School in Manhattan, where he excelled in basketball and track. He was an excellent student and was able to graduate at the age of 16. He

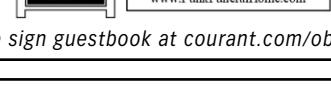
earned his finance degree from the Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and later went on to obtain his law degree from Fordham University. Warren was then proud to serve in the US Army during the Korean War. Warren valued education as demonstrated by his many degrees, including a Master of Science in Organizational Behavior and a Doctorate from the University of Hartford. Warren also obtained his Charter Life Underwriters Degree while working at the Travelers Insurance Company, where he was employed for over 35 years. Warren married Noreen (Meehan) and they were well known in town for their family of five sons and one daughter. Warren and Noreen were devoted parents and volunteered many hours to Simsbury Little League, Babe Ruth Baseball, St. Mary's Basketball, Midget League Football, and Simsbury Softball. He also served on the Board of Education for Simsbury Public Schools. Warren enjoyed the outdoors and spent many vacations camping with his family, with all the kids loaded into the back of the station wagon. He loved to talk about the value of hard work, education, and saving money. He often shared his wisdom on these matters with his kids and many grandchildren. In his retirement Warren enjoyed playing golf and getting together with his golfing buddies. Warren was also an avid reader, focusing mainly on history. Warren loved spending time with his adult kids and watching them give each other "the business". It was guaranteed to make him laugh. He was predeceased by Noreen Lutz, and granddaughters Kathleen Lutz and Rachael Lutz. He is survived by his sons Bill, Bob, Steve (Sue), Rich, Jim (Jenny), and daughter Chris. Warren was blessed with 17 grandchildren and 3 great grandchildren, with another one on the way. A private ceremony will be held by the family.

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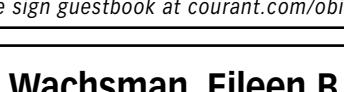
OBITUARIES**Dumond, Roland**

Roland Dumond, 84, of Windsor, widower of Josephine (Cameron) Dumond, died on Thursday (April 28, 2022) at St. Francis Hospital. Roland was born in St. Agatha, ME on January 23, 1938 and was a son of the late Alsime and Leda (Lagasse) Dumond. He was raised in St. Agatha before enlisting to proudly serve in the United States Army. He ended up settling in Windsor where he would enjoy a career as a union carpenter with Local 24 until retiring. He was an avid Patriots fan and loved to cook-out on his grill, garden, and tinker in his garage. He was always willing to lend a hand and he loved the Christmas holiday (but wouldn't admit it). He was also an animal lover. Roland is survived by three children: James Derosier and wife, Monique Tully of Monrovia, CA, Connie Derosier and partner, Kimberly Cieski of Stafford Springs, and Sherrie (Dumond) Gioia and husband, Alan of New Hartford; a sister: Nancy Berube and husband, Donald of Bristol; sister-in-law: Rolande Dumond of Bristol; many nieces and nephews; his two close friends: John Loura and Jim Dibardino; and his beloved grand-cats: Samuel Roland, Schroeder, Ollie, and Shelby. He was predeceased by seven brothers: Reno, Norman, Lawrence, Gilbert, Gilman, Gerald, and Emilio Dumond, and three sisters: Edwina Dufour, Lena Hebert, and Alphena Chase. Funeral services will be held on Saturday (May 7, 2022) at 10:30 AM from Funk Funeral Home, 35 Bellevue Ave., Bristol, to St. Gregory the Great Church, 235 Maltby St., Bristol, for a Mass of Christian Burial at 11:30 AM. Military honors will follow the Mass. Burial will be at the convenience of the family. Relatives and friends may call at Funk Funeral Home on Friday between 5 and 7 PM. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to: For the Love of Jack, Inc., 8 Mountain Ave., Winsted, CT 06098. This 501(c) (3) organization helps sick, injured, and hungry animals. The family thanks the St. Francis Hospital ICU doctors, nurses, and staff along with the 8th floor nurses and hospice team for their extraordinary kindness and care of Roland. Please visit Roland's memorial web-site at www.FunkFuneralHome.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Rathier, Muriel Audrey (Lavender)**

Muriel Audrey (Audri) Lavender Rathier, 95, of Windsor, beloved wife of the late Thomas A. Rathier, passed away peacefully on Thursday, April 21, 2022, at her home with her family by her side. Audi was born on January 29, 1927, in Smithfield, R.I., daughter to John Lavender and Alice Fermor Lavender.

Audi was raised and completed her education in Rhode Island. Tom and Audi moved to Guilford, CT and raised their family there and were active members of Christ Episcopal Church. As her children got older, Audi worked as a receptionist for several doctor's offices; eventually retiring in Florida. In her spare time, Audi loved to read books and the daily newspaper, and wrote notes to her friends. She enjoyed getting mail, perusing the catalogs and magazines as they came. In her last years she loved using her iPad to communicate daily with her extended family and doing puzzles online every evening. Audi's love for her family and time spent with them all, in person, online or on phone calls was always the most important aspect of her life. She always offered support, stories and joy in sharing herself daily. Her family will miss her greatly and her memory will live on in their hearts and lives and in all those she touched along the way. Her family is able to rejoice knowing that Audi is forever in the presence of Her Lord. Audi is survived by her two children, Thomas M. Rathier and his wife Maggie, with whom she made her home, of Windsor, and Kerry L. Rathier Stahlecker and her husband Dean of Arlington, Texas; four grandchildren, Amy Westgate and husband Kevin, Andrew Rathier, Jaida Hernandez and her husband Giezi and Stephen Rathier and his partner Jennifer Bowman; great grandchildren, Kady and Owen Westgate and Kairos and Kohen Hernandez; as well has numerous nieces and nephews. In addition to her husband and parents Audi was predeceased by her grandson, Thomas Stahlecker, as well as her five siblings. Funeral services for Audi will be private. Burial will be held in Florida. The Carmon Windsor Funeral Home is in care of her arrangements. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105. To leave an online message of condolence for her family, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Wachsman, Eileen B.**

Eileen B. (Britt) Wachsman, age 78, of Ellington, passed away April 28, 2022. She was born November 28, 1943 in Middletown, the daughter of the late John and Agatha (Flanagan) Britt.

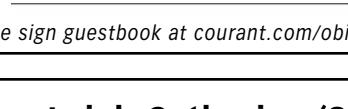
Eileen grew up in Middletown, CT and graduated from Woodrow Wilson High School in 1961. She then received an Associates Degree from Central Connecticut State University. She spent the majority of her career working for the State of Connecticut, first with the Connecticut Lottery when it opened and then later for the State Legislative Branch. Eileen was passionate about politics to say the least and enjoyed working for the Connecticut House Democrats and in local campaigns. Her other passions were hiking, country music, folk art painting, and travel. She especially loved getting together with her extended family in Middletown, CT, visiting her sister in Colorado, and continuing the family tradition of sending the most obnoxious flamingo items to family whenever she found them! Eileen was diagnosed with dementia shortly after finally becoming a grandmother, but her grandsons always made her smile when she saw them or was shown pictures of them during visits. Her spirit lives on through them on a daily basis.

Eileen is survived by her son, Jason Wachsman and his wife Andrea, her daughter, Cara O'Sullivan and her husband Sean, her grandchildren Seamus and Declan O'Sullivan, her step-grandchildren Kara LeDuc & Samantha Higgins, her sister Sharon Brigner and her husband Al, her nephews Pete Brigner & Andy Brigner, her beloved cousins Patricia Rizzo, John Flanagan, & Karen O'Leary, and many more cousins & extended family. She is recently predeceased by her husband of 53 years, Albert Wachsman.

A private service and burial for family will be held at Ellington Center Cemetery, Ellington. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to The Alzheimer's Association at <https://www.alz.org/>. For online condolences please visit: www.piетrasfuneralhome.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Clarke, Cynthia E.**

Cynthia Ellis Clarke, precious daughter of Joanne Dubbs Ball, departed this life on April 20, 2022, at her mother's home in Simsbury after a short, heart-breaking struggle with pancreatic cancer. Born in Hartford on May 28, 1953, Cindy spent her childhood in Tariffville and later West Simsbury. She graduated from Simsbury High School and earned her R.N. degree from the St. Francis School of Nursing. Dedicated since her early teens to care of the elderly, she continued to do so in Connecticut and later the San Francisco area, where she resided in an ashram in Castro Valley. Cindy later divided her time between that ashram and one in Kerala, India, where she resided more permanently. However, following the death of her stepfather, she spent the last eight years with her mother at a villa in the McLean retirement community. Cindy was preceded in death by her father E. Edward Clarke, her stepfather Robert W. D. Ball, her grandparents John and Tora Dubbs and Dora Clarke, all of Lancaster Pa. and a specially-loved great grandmother and great aunt, Mary Danner Dubbs and Mary Dubbs Snyder, and also by her best friend since childhood Carolyn Cappa. In addition to her mother, she leaves behind to grieve her loss, her brother Brett Clarke, his wife Adele, and her two beloved nephews Elliot and Aidan Clarke, all of Cincinnati, Ohio; her uncles Jack Dubbs and wife Judy of Harrisburg, Pa., Gregg Dubbs and wife Linda of Lancaster, and cousin Shelly Dubbs Kuhns of Landisville, Pa.; her stepsister Terry Henninger of Riverside, Florida; and her stepbrother Douglas Ball and wife Denise of Pleasant Valley, Ct. Cindy devoted her life to love of family, helping others and to her strong faith in God and the afterlife. The family extends special thanks to the outstanding Hospice staff at McLean, the extra nursing care provided by Amy's Angels, and the Palliative Care staff at the UConn Medical Center. The Carmon Funeral Home in Avon is in charge of arrangements, including cremation. A service in her memory will be held at 11:30 a.m. on Wednesday, June 15 at the Ball gravesite in Simsbury Cemetery. Donations may be made in her name to Samaritan's Purse, PO Box 3000, Boone, NC, 28607. For condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Baronowski, Suzanne**

Suzanne (Sue) Leigh Baronowski, age 78, of Southport, NC, passed away on Monday, April 25, 2022, at Novant Hospital in Wilmington, NC. She was born December 20, 1943, in the Bronx to the late G. Douglass and E. Mary (Vaughn) Montfort. In addition to her parents, Suzanne was predeceased in death by her brother, Douglass Montfort. She is survived by her husband, John; sister, Carol (Charles) Burke of West Haven, CT; a daughter, Tracy (Gerold) Crowley, of Colchester, CT; a daughter, Katherine (Nicholas) Branson, of Southport, NC; grandchildren, Jerlyn and Randy Crowley, of Colchester, CT; granddaughter, Lily Branson, of Southport, NC; and Sister-in-law Carole Jean Montfort of Rochester, NY. After graduating from Branford High School, she began a career in the banking industry where she met her husband of 49 years. She then transitioned to the insurance industry. During her working career she traveled extensively with her family visiting many US national parks across the country, as well as exploring states up and down the East Coast and the Canadian Maritimes. After thirty years, Sue and John retired to Southport to begin the next phase of their life. Retirement meant more travel, family time and new hobbies. Dance, golf and BNC activities took up much of her time in early retirement, followed by years of travel throughout the Caribbean, Alaska, Hawaii, multiple river cruises throughout Europe and Asia, making many new friends along the way. She had a special fellowship with The Landing "nasta" ladies and her priority group. Their Friday luncheons were a priority only to be missed by absence due to travel or illness. Her granddaughter, Lily, held a special place in her heart, as she got to be involved with her day-to-day care, picking her up from school and watching her over breaks. They shared snacks and secrets, both of which they were terrible at hiding from Lily's mommy. Though retirement friends became her closest friends, Sue still kept in touch with many other friends made over the years, even going back to her high school days. She touched a lot of lives, always welcoming a visit and a chance to catch-up. As a devout Catholic, she was a communicant at Sacred Heart Catholic Church, a member of the Ladies Guild and head of one of counting teams for many years. The family will have visitation on May 5, 2022, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm at Peacock - Newnam & White Funeral Home. A Funeral Mass will be held at noon, Friday, May 6, at Sacred Heart Church, Southport, NC. A memorial celebration will be held at a later date in Connecticut. In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be made to St. Jude or to a charity of your choice. Fond memories and condolences may be shared at www.peacocknewnamwhite.com. Peacock - Newnam & White Funeral and Cremation Service, Southport, NC.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Ersevim, Leigh Catherine (Stoney)**

Leigh Catherine Ersevim, 78, of Glastonbury, CT, passed away on Wednesday, April 27th, with her loving family at her side. She was born August 25, 1943 in Pawtucket, Rhode Island, the second daughter of six to Charlotte and Leonard Stonely. She grew up in Pawtucket, excelled in school and even appeared on the popular 'Quiz Kids' TV show.

She went to nursing school and became a nurse anesthetist (CRNA), working the majority of her career at Women & Infants Hospital in Providence, RI. Leigh was regularly requested by name to be someone's CRNA for a birth or procedure. Doctors struggling with a difficult intubation would sometimes shout 'Get Leigh in here!' After retiring, she enjoyed volunteering at Naubuc Elementary School in Glastonbury. Leigh loved her little dog Annie, and being a Nana to every child she knew. With a sweet, generous, and warm heart, kids were naturally drawn to her. Leigh also enjoyed going to Florida, Pilgrim Pines, sunning on any beach, sewing and quilting, going to concerts or performances featuring her son or grandkids, gardening, and solving word puzzles. Life as a single mom was not always easy and she made many sacrifices, both large and small for her son for which he is eternally grateful. She leaves behind her beloved son, Michael, daughter-in-law, Kate, her two wonderful grandsons, Christopher and Thomas, her five beautiful sisters, Dorothy Stonely, Judy Silva, Sharon Allard, Gayle Keenan, Deborah Hamel and many wonderful nieces and nephews, all of whom she loved dearly. Calling hours will be Saturday, May 7th from 1:00pm to 3:00pm at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury, CT, with a service immediately following. Masks appreciated but not required. Please consider making a donation in Leigh's memory to the Alzheimer's Association at alz.org. For online condolences, please visit www.mulryanh.com.



FUNERAL HOME

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Holder, Barbara Jane (Gallant)**

Barbara Jane Holder, born June 7th, 1935 to John W. Gallant and Edith S. Hammond in Suffield, CT passed peacefully on April 28, 2022 surrounded by family in Portsmouth, New Hampshire. She married the love of her life, Jerry, in June of 1955. She loved her family and supported her husband and children in all things. She was the busy bee behind

the scenes. She was an amazing and supportive grandmother who didn't miss a thing- sewing Halloween costumes, attending every sports game, Sundays to church and so much more. You could always find her outside, whether gardening, driving her convertible around town (no matter the weather), reading or walking. She was an avid roller skater in her earlier years, active in her church as a deacon with ties to Southwick Congregational Church where she loved playing in their bell choir. She was spry even into her senior years, working in the garden center, walking daily, keeping up with friends and family by letters and phone calls, watching her two great granddaughters play and even taking care of them on sick days. She was determined, tough, generous and kind. You could always talk to her about anything without fear of being judged, she was one of the best listeners and a loyal friend. In the afterlife, she meets again with those she lost- her Mother, Father, six brothers and sisters including her twin sister Sally Sigrist, her son Jay G. Holder, her husband Gerald W. Holder.

She leaves behind her daughter, Robin L. DiMauro, her granddaughter Alison Milam and her husband Tyler Milam and two great granddaughters- Sophie and Charlie, all of Newmarket, NH. Gravestone service only, Tuesday May 3rd at 11:30am, Woodlawn Cemetery, Bridge Street, Suffield, CT. Flowers may be sent to Carmon Funeral Home, 443 East Street North, Suffield, CT 06078 or donations can be made in Barbara's name to the Southwick Congregational Church, 488 College Highway, Southwick, Massachusetts 01077.

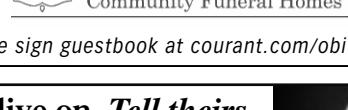
Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Theriault, Georgianna (Lozier)**

Georgianna (Lozier) Theriault, 99, of South Windsor, beloved wife of Eli Theriault for 78 years, passed away peacefully on Friday, April 22, 2022. Georgianna was born July 22, 1922 in Fort Kent, Maine and was the youngest daughter of the late Fred and Agnes (Boutot) Lozier. She was predeceased by eight siblings. Georgianna lived in Connecticut for most of her life, mainly in South Windsor. She was employed at UConn Health Center in Farmington as Secretary to the Dean of Medicine.

Georgianna was a Communicant of St. Margaret Mary Church in South Windsor. She enjoyed spending time with family, playing cards with relatives, singing in church, and listening to music. Georgianna was proud to have earned her Liberal Arts Associate degree from Manchester Community College.

In addition to her beloved husband Eli, she is survived by her four children Thomas Theriault of Tolland, Joseph Theriault of South Windsor, Paul Theriault of South Windsor and Elise (Theriault) MacPherson of Vernon; six loving and cherished grandchildren Matthew Theriault (Daniela), Tiffany Theriault, Justin Theriault (Katherine), Jordan Theriault, Cristina Theriault, and James MacPherson; and two great-grandchildren Taigo Theriault and Chloe Theriault.

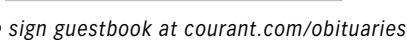
Funeral services and burial in Wapping Cemetery, South Windsor will be private. There are no calling hours. In lieu of flowers, memorial contributions may be made to the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. Samsel & Carmon Funeral Home has care of the arrangements. To leave an online condolence please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries**Owens, Patsy A.**

Owens, Patsy A. 75, of Hartford, Connecticut, departed peacefully on April 15, 2022. Born on July 10, 1946, Patsy was the daughter of Robert Lee and Willie Mae (Champion) Owens. Patsy's most important role was being a loving mother to Thomas Keith (Roslyn) Johnson, Tyrone (Jonna) Owens, Crystal Owens, Clarence Owens, and Kionna

Owens. Patsy's House was a place where memories were created, and everyone was welcomed. Highly respected, Patsy was known for her unfiltered words and love of people. Not easily intimidated, Patsy lived her life fearlessly, WITHOUT asking your permission.

Affectionately known as Aunt Patsy, Big Sis, Frisky, "My Cousin PATSY," and "Robert Owens." Patsy is survived by her siblings Marcia Herring, Bernadine Calixte, and Alan Evans. Patsy had seven grandchildren: Kesha Baxter, LaMia Owens, Dion (Samantha) Owens, Shaquille Owens, India Owens, Kennedy Osayande; two great grandchildren, Arianna and Allison Owens. Patsy was predeceased by her parents, Robert Lee and Willie Mae (Champion) Owens, brother Gregory Owens. The family will receive friends Thursday, May 5, 2022 12:00 pm-1:00 pm with a Celebration of Life service at 1:00 pm at The Lodge Community Chapel, 130 Deerfield Rd., Windsor, CT. For online condolences or to attend remotely please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com



Community Funeral Homes

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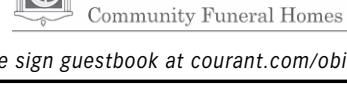
to share memories of loved ones.

OBITUARIES

Berard, Jeffrey



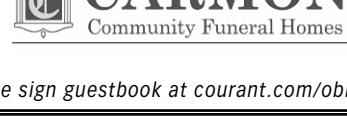
Jeffrey Albert Berard, 67, passed away on April 11, 2022. He had been living with his long-time friend and companion Heather Frost of Winchester, CT. Born in Valley Forge, PA the son of the late Albert Joseph and Therese Adele Berard. He was raised in East Granby and was a graduate of A.I. Prince Technical High School. Jeffrey worked at Allied Plywood in East Hartford for several years and also the State of CT Department of Transportation for 28 years. Additionally, he owned and operated his own stump grinding business. He was an avid outdoorsman, loved hunting, fishing, snowmobiling, Alaska, traveling, hanging out with his friends and family, Westerns. Jeffrey was very outgoing, he could, and would, talk to anyone. Jeffrey is survived by his sister Cecilia Lacouture and her husband Jay Lacouture of West Suffield, CT; brother Steven Berard and his wife Susan, niece Rachael, nephew Lukas, of Shiocton, WI; sister Janice Grasse and her husband William, nephews Billie and Baron of Homewood, IL; brother Mark Berard and his wife Patti Lynn of Southington, CT; friend Heather Frost of Winchester, CT; Aunt Jeannette Bolduc, CND of Bridgeport, CT. Funeral services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home of Granby has care of the arrangements. For condolences, please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Berg, Arthur "Artie" Marshall Frank

Arthur "Artie" Marshall Frank Berg, 51, of East Hartford and formerly of East Hartland, passed away unexpectedly on Sunday, April 17, 2022, at his home. Born in Hartford on March 7, 1971, son of the late Marshall Frank Berg and Deanna J. (Williams) Shelansky, he was raised in East Hartford and attended Simsbury Public Schools. As a young man, he loved travelling and attending music festivals around the country. Artie met the band members of Max Creek in the 1980's and developed a passion for their music which continued throughout his life. He went to their shows across the country and attended many other music festivals where he got to know and developed friendships with several musicians. He returned to Connecticut in his early 20's and took a position with D.W. Burr as a landscaper. Artie's love of landscaping developed over the years and he opened his own company, Artistic Lawn Services. After his daughter was born, Artie's central focus in life turned to her. He loved spending time with her and was even a stay-at-home father for many years. He leaves a daughter, Asia RoseMarie Berg of Woodsville, NH; two brothers, Travis Berg and his wife Amanda of Granby, and Daryl Williams of North Carolina; a sister, Danielle Soldate and her husband Tony of Granby; and three nephews, Dakota Berg, Joseph and Jonathan Cardoso. Besides his parents, he was predeceased by two brothers, Scott Randall Berg and Randall Berg; and a sister, Darlene Janet Bronsord. Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. Hayes-Huling & Carmon Funeral Home in Granby has care of the arrangements. For online condolences please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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DAVIS , DOLORES G. (Dottie)



YOU WILL BE MISSED, BUT YOUR LEGACY WILL LIVE ON FOREVER IN OUR HEARTS.

5/15/27 - 4/6/22

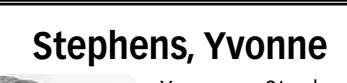
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Pearson, Philip N.

Philip N. Pearson, 74, of Bloomfield, beloved husband of Elizabeth Anne Pearson passed away on Wednesday, April 27, 2022, at the West Haven VA Hospital. He was born in Berkeley, CA, on December 8, 1947; the only child of the late John and Dolores Franklin. Philip was a graduate of Weaver High School class of 1965. He proudly served his country in the Army during the Vietnam War. The US Army recognized Philip for his honorable service with two Purple Hearts. He worked for the city of Hartford as a truck driver for twenty-four years before retiring.

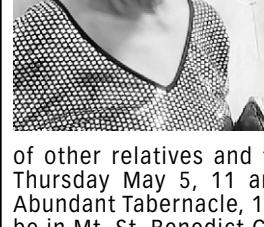
Philip enjoyed spending time with his family, caring for his dogs and appreciated the simple things in life. He was an avid sports fan, especially UConn basketball and the Connecticut Sun for which he had season tickets. He will be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandpa, and friend. In addition to his loving wife Elizabeth, Philip is survived by his three children, Stanley Martin Pearson, John Alexander Pearson and partner Kimberly Grant, and Jennifer Elizabeth Pearson and partner Khasim Harrell; 6 grandchildren, Elizabeth Edna Pearl Pearson, Adonis Canada, Jayly Pearson, Angelie Canada, Kenzie Harrell, and Khari Harrell, and a host of extended family and friends. He was predeceased by his daughter, Yvonne Battle.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Tuesday, May 3, 2022, 10:00 am at Sacred Heart Church, Bloomfield, CT. Burial with military honors will follow in Mount Saint Benedict Cemetery. In lieu of flowers memorial donations in Philip's memory may be made to West Haven VA Hospital. For online expressions of sympathy please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Stephens, Yvonne



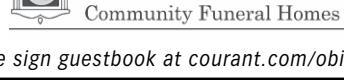
Yvonne Stephens, 80, of Hartford, CT passed away on Monday April 25, 2022 at St. Francis Hospital. She was born in Marion, Alabama and resided in Hartford, CT for over 60 years. She was predeceased by her husband Freddie James Stephens, Sr. She is survived by 8 siblings, 4 children, 15 grandchildren; 8 great grandchildren; a host of other relatives and friends. Funeral service will be Thursday May 5, 11 am with Calling hour 10 am at Abundant Tabernacle, 14 Lenox St. Hartford. Burial will be in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. For online Condolences please visit Alffaihmemorial.com.

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Bowen, Princess A.



Princess Adora Bowen, 95, resident of Bloomfield, CT passed away peacefully at her residence on Saturday April 9, 2022. Born on November 4, 1926 she was the daughter of Earl and Mary Barr of Davies Penn, Trelawny, Jamaica in the West Indies. She married Edwin Emmanuel Bowen on February 2, 1953 and they migrated to the United States in 1989 where she worked as a child caregiver at the Capitol Childcare Development Center in Hartford until she retired in 1994. She was preceded in death by her husband Edwin, her daughter Lurline and four brothers, Robert, John, James and Nemiah. Princess remained active throughout her retirement; she enjoyed cooking, sewing, vacationing with family and spending time with her grandchildren and great-grandchildren. She was a well loved resident of her community and a time-honored member of the Family Worship Center in Hartford. Princess Adora is survived by her sister, Nila, her sister-in-law, Sybil, her son Carlton, her daughter Dorothy (and her husband Dudley). She also leaves behind her grandchildren Carlton Jr., Shauna, Shornette, Carlina, Natassia, Brianna, Simone, Barrington, Brian, Arlene, Alicia and Richard; nineteen great-grandchildren, other family members and friends. She inspired all with her wisdom, grace and cheerful personality. The princess will be greatly missed. Visitation will be held on Friday May 6, 2022 from 10:00AM - 11:00AM at the Family Worship Center 650 Blue Hills Avenue, Hartford, followed by the funeral service at 11:00AM with Bishop Cecil Hume officiating. Burial service will follow at the Mountain View Cemetery, Bloomfield. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com.



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Joiner, Jerry J



Jerry J. Joiner of Ocala, FL died peacefully surrounded by his family on April 24, 2022. Jerry was born and raised in Ft. Myers, FL and spent most of his adult life raising a family in Canton, CT. He worked at Aetna in Hartford for almost 40 years.

He was happiest salt water fishing, traveling the globe with his wife and family, and spending time with his adoring grandchildren.

He is survived by his wife Jeanne Joiner, his children David and Jennifer Joiner Roberts, Matthew and Colleen Joiner, Jonathan and Heather Dobbert and Jenna Dobbert and six grandchildren Delaney, Josh, Ali, Luke, Erynn and Elijah.

Services will be held May 7th at 11am at Unity Church of Ocala. 101 Cedar Rd. Ocala, FL. 352-687-2113. A service in Connecticut will be announced soon.

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Marks, Marliss (Bleifuss)

Marliss Della Ann (Bleifuss) Marks, 82, of Windsor, CT, beloved wife of 63 years to Harry E. Marks, passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 23, 2022. She was born on May 2, 1939, in Mayville, WI, daughter to the late Ernest and Esther (Schaumberg) Bleifuss.

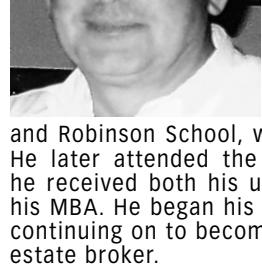
Marliss grew up in Mayville, attended local schools and was a graduate of Mayville High School, Class of 1957. After relocating to Connecticut in 1977, she was employed by Christ the King Lutheran Church in Windsor, CT, for many years as a secretary before her retirement in the early 2000's. Throughout her life, she enjoyed reading all genres and loved to bake pies, cookies and other tasty desserts. Marliss was the definition of the perfect wife, mother and grandmother. She cherished her years of raising and nurturing her children and grandchildren. She always put them first and herself to follow. She was the most supportive wife a husband could ask for; always encouraging and assisting Harry and her family with everything they were going through. In addition to her Harry, Marliss is survived by her four children, Lori Marks of Windsor, CT, Brian Marks and his wife Karlin of Ashland, WI, Leigh Ann Anderson and her husband Phillip of Boiceville, NY, and Bradley Marks and his longtime partner Kristen Ulrich of Ellington, CT; six grandchildren, Josh Marks and his wife Kate, Zachary Marks and his wife Airada, Emily Marks, Olivia Marks, Cole Staisil and Hudson Anderson; four great-grandchildren as well as her brother Dennis Bleifuss of Toronto, Canada.

All services for Marliss will be private. Carmon Windsor Funeral Home is in care of her arrangements. Her family would like to extend a special thank you to all the doctors, nurses and staff at St. Francis Hospital in Hartford for their care and compassion shown toward Marliss over the past few weeks.



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Worth, Thomas E.

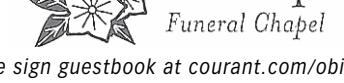


Thomas "Tom" Edward Worth, 73, of Hartford, died peacefully at his home on April 26, 2022. He is survived by his daughter, Cristina Savin and her husband Robert Savin of West Hartford; his three grandchildren, Lennox, Theodore and Monroe Savin and his brother, Richard Worth of Fairfield.

Tom grew up in West Hartford, attending Renbrook School, where he made lifelong friends. He later attended the University of Hartford, where he received both his undergraduate degree and later his MBA. He began his professional career in banking, continuing on to become a prominent commercial real estate broker.

Tom adored his nieces and nephews and was a friend to many. Tom had many passions in life, including golf, travel, horse racing and his Irish heritage. However, what he loved the most was spending every Sunday afternoon with his beloved daughter and grandchildren. Papa Tom always arrived with a bag full of treats ready to share with his sweethearts.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Monday, May 2 at 10 a.m. at St. Timothy's Roman Catholic Church, 1116 North Main Street, West Hartford. Interment will follow in Fairview Cemetery, West Hartford. In lieu of flowers, please consider making a donation in Tom's name to the National Organization for Rare Disorders (NORD) NORD, Inc. - Donations Dept. 5930, P.O. Box 4110, Woburn, MA 01888. The D'Esopo Funeral Chapel, Wethersfield has been entrusted with the arrangements. To share a memory of Tom with his family, please visit www.desopofuneralchapel.com.



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French, Robert Noel



Robert Noel French, 95, a man of simple needs, left for home April 26, 2022. Along the way he spent his youth in Newington, CT with Mom, Dad, Brother Dick and Sister Marge, who went home long before his leaving. Bob smiled when telling stories of his early years, such as driving a team of horses to Hartford. Following in his brother's footsteps to the University of Connecticut, he fondly reminisced of his college days filled with fraternity pranks and long winter weekends skiing. A degree in accounting and work as an auditor led to many years with the Metropolitan District Commission of Hartford County, most of them as Treasurer; a position he held with pride and humility while raising his family in Hartford, CT. With his wife of almost 60 years, Therese Messier French, who also went before him, they raised a family of five daughters - Margaret French, Kathryn French, Patricia Sevigny, Anne French Gardiner, and Mary Glod. Bob's family grew to include seven grandchildren - Michelle Delisle, Keith Sevigny, Sarah Gardiner, Lauren Gardiner, Correll French, Deanna Glod and Maria Glod - and five great grandchildren - Jonathan Delisle, Andrew Delisle, Nicholas Delisle, Logan Sevigny, and Connor Sevigny. Bob spent his retirement years on Cape Cod putting in his yard, with loving care for his magnificent heather hill; at 65 reigniting his love of skiing that continued into his 80's and always, always ... enjoying what life had given him. Now home, his journey with us at its end, he smiles, says good-bye, and wishes us well.

Visiting Hours will be held at Nickerson Funeral Home in Chatham, MA, Friday, May 6, 2022, from 4:00 - 7:00 PM. A funeral mass at Holy Trinity Catholic Church, followed by the burial at Holy Trinity Cemetery will take place Saturday, May 7, 2022, 10:00AM in Harwich, MA. In lieu of flowers, donations to Broadreach Hospice would be welcome. For online condolences, please visit www.nickersonfunerals.com.

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D'Aloisio, Vincent "Jimmy"



Vincent "Jimmy" D'Aloisio, 90, of Glastonbury passed away peacefully on Saturday, April 30, 2022. Born in Hartford, CT, he was the son of the late Venanzio and Elisa (D'Andrea) D'Aloisio. Growing up on Front St., Hartford and after graduating HPHS, Class of 1949, he enlisted in the U.S. Air Force having served in the Korean War. Jimmy attended Porter School of Tool Design and Process Planning, graduating in 1959. He worked as Tool Designer at Pratt and Whitney for thirty-six years, retiring in 1992. He was a communicant at St. Paul Church and a resident of Glastonbury for over fifty years. Jimmy was a life member of the Windsor Marksman Association where he enjoyed competitive target shooting with his brothers. He loved sailing, swimming, the beach and good food. Jimmy was a devoted and loving father to his daughters. Surviving are his two daughters Colleen D'Aloisio and Kelly D'Aloisio, his sister Mary Bettens and many nieces and nephews. Jimmy was predeceased by his brother Elio D'Aloisio and his wife Eda, his brother Nicola D'Aloisio and his wife Shirley, and his brother-in-law Joseph Bettens.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Wednesday, May 4, 2022 at 11:00 am at Ss. Isidore and Maria Parish at St. Paul Church, 2577 Main St., Glastonbury. Burial with Military Honors will be in Holy Cross Cemetery, Glastonbury. Friends may call on Wednesday morning from 9:30 am to 10:30 am at Mulryan Funeral Home, 725 Hebron Ave., Glastonbury. For online condolences, please visit www.mulrynanfh.com.

MULRYAN

FUNERAL HOME

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Ross, Carol L.



Carol L. Ross passed away on April 23, 2022 after a long battle with dementia, and is finally resting at peace reunited with God. Born to the late James and Angeline (Dagata) LaMonte on May 28, 1943 in New Britain, she was one of four beloved daughters. Carol lived most of her adult life in Burlington, CT. She earned a master's degree

while raising three children as a single parent. She worked many years for the State of Connecticut Department of Social Services, and immersed herself in her faith, her family, politics, community service, and reading. Surviving her are her three children and their spouses, Elizabeth Kelly (Ross) Wood and her husband Andrew of West Hartford, Eric Ross and his wife Gail of Burlington, and Kathryn (Ross) Palaia of Plainville. Her six grandchildren, Allison Martin, Scott Palaia, Megan Palaia, Owen Wood, Loren Ross, Olivia Ross, two great-grandchildren, Isabella and Luca, and many nieces and nephews. Additionally, she is survived by her sister Joanne Michaud of Colorado Springs, and her sister Angela LaMonte of New York City. She is predeceased by her sister Rosemarie (LaMonte) Skoglund, two brother's in-law Gary Skoglund and Robert Michaud, her son-in-law Michael Palaia, and a beloved nephew, Thomas Skoglund. The family would like to extend gratitude to all the staff at Touchpoints of Farmington for their compassion and care. A mass will be celebrated at St Jerome Church, 1010 Slater Road New Britain on Friday, May 6, 2022 at 11:30 a.m. Friends and family are invited to call on Carol's family at New Britain Memorial-Donald D. Sagarino Funeral Home, 444 Farmington Avenue, New Britain prior to the mass from 9:00 a.m. - 11:00 am. In lieu of flowers, please consider a donation to Connecticut Foodshare on Carol's behalf. Fond memories and expressions of sympathy may be shared at www.NewBritainSagarino.com for the Ross family.

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West, Alexandrine M.

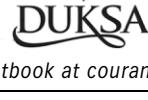
Alexandrine M. "Deenie" West, 83, of Simsbury, CT, passed away Wednesday, April 27, 2022. She was predeceased by her husband, Richard. She is survived by her sons, Timothy and Kevin, as well as her grandchildren, Austin, Trevor, Alexandrine, Collin, Keegan, and Kaitlyn. She had attended Mt. St. Joseph Academy, the University of Hartford, and the University of St. Joseph. She had taught at the Hartford Public School as well as St. Mary's School in Simsbury. There are no calling hours. Funeral Mass of Christian Burial will be at 11:00 am on Monday, May 2nd at St. Mary's Church, 942 Hopmeadow Street in Simsbury. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery in Bloomfield. The Vincent Funeral Home of Simsbury is caring for the arrangements. Please visit Deenie's Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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OBITUARIES

Kochanowicz, Rita D.

Rita (Desrocher) Kochanowicz, 81, of Newington, passed away peacefully on Tuesday, April 26, 2022. She was the beloved wife of the late George Kochanowicz, Jr. Born in Hartford, daughter of the late Norbert and Eva Desrocher, she was a longtime resident of Newington. A loving mother, she leaves her daughter Karen Blair and two sons, Richard Kochanowicz and his wife Christine of Brewster, MA, Brian Kochanowicz of Redondo Beach, CA; her cherished grandchildren, who she adored, Ashley, Jeffrey, Timmy and Amy, Kyle, Lauren and her two great grandchildren Jameson and Lillian. She is also survived by her sister Lorraine Dutka and several nieces, nephews, and dear friends. She looked forward to her luncheons with Judy, Maralyn, Peggy, Alice and Joan. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Tuesday, May 3rd, from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Newington Memorial, 20 Bonair Ave., Newington. Her funeral service will begin on Wednesday, May 4th at 9 a.m. at Newington Memorial, followed by a Mass of Christian Burial at 10:00 a.m. at St. Mary's Church, Newington. She will be laid to rest with her husband in West Meadow Cemetery. Memorial donations may be made to Masonicare Hospice, 77 Hartland St., East Hartford, CT 06108. To share a memory with her family, please visit us at www.duksa.net.



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Liljedahl, Gregory Nels

A gentle soul passed into the hands of his Father April 28, 2022. He was surrounded by family; his beloved wife of 51 years Mary, his children Sarah, Eric (Maureen) and Mark (Bridget), his brothers Bob (Janet) and Tom. Greg was born in Hartford, Connecticut on October 1, 1948 to Nels and Ellen Liljedahl of Avon, Connecticut.

Greg's world revolved around his beautiful grandchildren Crosby, Camille, Brady and Abel. They filled his life with games, joy and humor.

Greg was a graduate of the University of Wisconsin School of Mechanical Engineering. He was an avid Badger fan and loved UConn Huskie Women's Basketball. Greg retired from GE as a global warming expert in 2015. He was known for his work ethic, organization and humble social dynamics.

Greg's short life was full of family first, good friends and neighbors; and projects big and small. Golfing with Greg was a pleasure and his conversation was always encouraging.

His family wishes to thank the ER and the 5th floor ICU medical staff of St. Francis Hospital for their kindness and professional care.

A reception for friends and family of Greg will be held Wednesday, May 4th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at St. Mary's Parish Center in Simsbury, Connecticut. A private religious service will be held at a later date. The Vincent Funeral Home is caring for the arrangements. Please visit Greg's Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

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Walker, Hugh D.

Hugh Dempster Walker, 83, of Bloomfield CT, passed away on April 11, 2022 in Hartford, CT. He was born in Kingston Jamaica, son to Edna Lindsey and Charles Walker on August 3, 1938. He went to school in Half Way Tree Kingston JA. He was a veteran for (Years) and served in the Jamaica Defense Force where he was also an Armored Truck Driver as well. He Married Derma Gordon on December 29, 1970 in JA, they were married for 52 Years. In 1974 he moved to the United States where he resided in Lakewood NJ for two years before he settled in the town of Bloomfield for 46 years. Pops used to drive Taxi all over Hartford where he met a lot of people that grew up to love him and his personality. He also worked at Veeder Root in Hartford CT doing Machinery for many years. He was also a long time member of the Jamaica Progressive League. He was very proud of his Jamaican Heritage. "Sticky" is survived by his wife, Derma Walker, six children, fifteen grandchildren, three great grandchildren and many nieces and nephews. The family will receive friends on Friday, May 6, 2022 from 3:00 pm-6:00 pm, at Carmon Funeral Home, 807 Bloomfield Ave., Windsor, CT. For online condolence please visit, www.carmonfuneralhome.com



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West, H Richard

H Richard "Dick" West, USAF (Retired) passed away in Lexington KY on April 24, 2022 at the age of 81. Richard is survived by his wife Tina Cimino West of Lexington and his daughters from his marriage to Molly West; Carolyn West of Paoli PA, Jennifer Parker of Dayton OH (Chandler) and his granddaughter Molly Kathryn Parker of Dayton OH. Richard

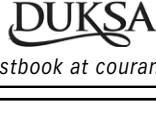
grew up in East Granby CT and attended Granby High School and the University of Hartford where he played baseball before beginning Navy OCS school in 1966 and training as a Naval Aviator. He served in the US Navy and USAF as a pilot and flight instructor. He flew the F4 Phantom and accumulated 290 carrier landings during his years of active duty. He joined the CT Air National Guard in 1977 and flew the F100 and A10 until 1991 and retired from the USAF in 2001 as a Lieutenant Colonel. Richard was a Captain with Eastern Airlines before flying for FedEx for 21 years. Richard was active in coaching and organizing Little League baseball in Ellington CT for many years. When he was not flying Richard was an avid golfer. He was preceded in death by his son William West, parents Catherine and Edward West and his brother William E. West, LT US Army killed in action in Vietnam. No services are planned at this time. In lieu of flowers the family asks that donations be made to the Dementia Society of America, <https://dementiasociety.charityproud.org/donate> or to Little League Baseball, <https://www.littleleague.org/who-we-are/making-a-donation/>.

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Visit the obituary section on courant.com
to share memories of loved ones.

Ciurzynski, Rajmund

Rajmund Ciurzynski, 80, of New Britain, passed away on Friday, April 29, 2022 at his home. He was the loving husband of Zofia (Jagora) Ciurzynski for 55 blissful years. Born in Poland, he was a son of Tadeusz and Regina (Marciniak). Rajmund worked as a machinist for Textron Atlantic Tool in Newington where he retired after many years. He was a member of Holy Cross Church and his faith helped him to be a loving and devoted husband, father and grandfather who will be dearly missed. In addition to his beloved wife Zofia, he leaves his two daughters; Kathryn, and Donna and her partner Greg. He also leaves his granddaughter Alycia and several cousins. Rajmund's funeral will begin at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, May 3rd at Duksa Family Funeral Homes at Burritt Hill, 332 Burritt St. New Britain followed by a Mass of Christian burial at 10:00 a.m. at Holy Cross Church in New Britain. He will be laid to rest in Sacred Heart Cemetery. Relatives and friends are invited to call on Monday from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at Burritt Hill. To share a memory with his family, please visit www.duksa.net.



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Dieckman, Karen

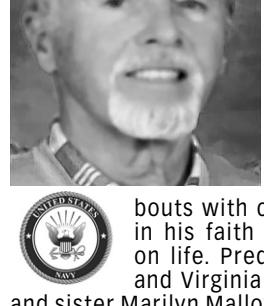
Karen was so loved by her sister, Linda Kantor, her brother, Richard Dieckman, her "brother", Dennis Kantor, & by her nieces, Beth Scudder (Jon), Danielle Wilson (Chris), her grand nieces & nephew, Megan, Lily, Abby, Lindsey, & Connor, her cousins, Val & Janet, & by her many caring & loyal friends. We will all miss her good nature, her funny sense of humor, & her cute smile.

Karen's family is very grateful to the staff at The Residence at Brookside in Avon for their kindness & compassion during the last five years.

May you be at peace, Karen.

Please visit Karen's Book of Memories at www.vincentfuneralhome.com for online tributes.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Joyce, Thomas M.

Thomas M. Joyce, Sr. "Tommy", 81 of New Smyrna Beach, FL, left this life on April 21, 2022. Born in Hartford, CT, Tommy was a graduate of Bentley College, a U.S. Navy Veteran and successful Wall Street investment advisor. A gifted multi-sport high school athlete, he loved golf throughout his life, and travel and singing in his later years. Surviving several

bouts with cancer, Tommy remained strong in his faith and carried a positive outlook on life. Predeceased by his parents James and Virginia Joyce, daughter Jennifer Joyce and sister Marilyn Malloy. He leaves behind to celebrate his life, his beloved Valerie Carson of New Smyrna Beach, FL. A proud and devoted father and grandfather he is survived by sons Thomas (Tracy) Joyce Jr., Scott Joyce, daughter Heather (Andrew) Astarita, and grandchildren Julie and Michael Joyce, and Katelyn Astarita. He leaves behind brothers James (Maureen) Joyce, Brian (Sandy) Joyce, and sister Nancy Albuquerque. A memorial service will be held on June 11 2022 at Dale Woodward Funeral Home, 167 Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32117. More information can be found at dalewoodwardfuneralhomes.com. Online condolences and memories may be shared at <https://everloved.com/life-of/thomas-joyce/>

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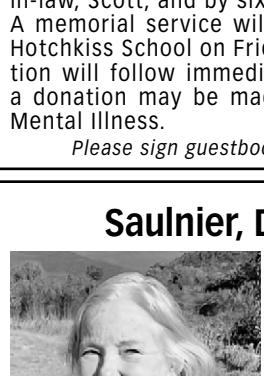
Keefe, Laura K.

On Oct. 3, 2021, Laura Katrina Keefe, beloved daughter to Terri Lee Young and Francis Edward Keefe and beloved sister to Gerald Francis Keefe and Judith Johanna Frost, passed away at the age of 51. Laura was born on Jan. 14, 1970, in Exeter, N.H., to Terri and Francis. She graduated from The Hotchkiss School in 1987 and Yale University in 1991 and lived thereafter in New Haven, Boston, New York and finally in Los Angeles, involved in various creative pursuits. She forayed briefly into investments, music and dance, but principally spent her time writing. Laura was a loving aunt to her nieces, engaging, thoughtful and kind, and brought a sophisticated presence to her visits. She drew them to John Langstaff, Tasha Tudor and centerpiece crafting rather than allowing them to "dissolve in front of the television" as she put it. Talented at virtually everything she touched, including mathematics, languages, sciences, music, art and creative writing, she ultimately committed to a life spent in pursuit of peace for her soul. Tragically, this proved elusive for her on earth. Despite missing Laura deeply, her family finds solace in the knowledge that she has at last found the peace she sought.

Laura is survived by her mother, Terri; her father, Francis, and his wife, Joan; her brother, Gerry, and sister-in-law, Tracy; and her sister, Judith, and brother-in-law, Scott; and by six nieces.

A memorial service will be held at the chapel of The Hotchkiss School on Friday, July 15, at 11 a.m. A reception will follow immediately after. In lieu of flowers, a donation may be made to the National Alliance on Mental Illness.

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Saulnier, Diane (Bergen)

Saulnier, Diane 71, of Ellington, died peacefully on Monday, April 25, 2022. Born in Hempstead, NY, the daughter of the late Joseph and Helen (Schrier) Bergen. Diane made her home in Manchester and Ellington for the past 20 years. She received her degree in Business from the Chandler School in Boston. She began her career as an Executive Assistant for Drexel Burnham Lambert and in 1997 she opened her own business, Flex Help Housekeeping. Diane was a special friend and mother figure to many. She had a quirky way of making you laugh and putting a smile on your face!

Diane is survived by her two sons, Sean, and fiancé Sarah Kwiatak and Robert and wife Julia Kirchmer, and siblings, Dan Bergen and his wife Linda of Carmel, CA, and their children, Joe and Shannon, Sally Biggs of Virginia Beach and her son Shamus and sister-in-law Ladislava Bergen of St. Pete Beach, FL. Predeceased by her parents, Joseph and Helen Bergen, sister, Nancy Bauer, and brother David Bergen.

A Mass of Christian Burial will be celebrated on Friday, May 6th, at 11:00 a.m. in St. Thomas the Apostle Church, 872 Farmington Ave., West Hartford. Burial will follow in Mt. St. Benedict Cemetery, Bloomfield. Online expressions of sympathy may be made at www.molloyfuneralhome.com.

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Bosse, Corrine Patricia

Corrine P. Bosse, 81, of Plainville, passed away peacefully Monday, April 25, 2022. She was the beloved wife of the late Herve Bosse. Corrine was born on March 17, 1941, in Madawaska, Maine to the late Alfred and Rita Landry. She worked as a home healthcare aid until her retirement. Corrine will be remembered for her unwavering devotion to her family, her greatest legacy. She will be dearly missed by all who had the pleasure of knowing her. Left to cherish Corrine's memory are her three sons, Scott Bosse, Lonnie Bosse, and Devin Bosse; two sisters, Bernice Santomango, and Claudette Landry; two brothers, Martin Landry and Phillip Landry; and four grandchildren; Cameron Bosse, Taylor Bosse, Tanner Bosse, and Tucker Bosse. Besides her husband, Corrine was preceded in death by her granddaughter, Sarah Bosse, brother, Bobby Landry and her sister, Joan Landry. In honor of Corrine's wishes there will be no calling hours. A graveside service will be held at The Connecticut State Veteran's Cemetery, Middletown. Services will be private and at the convenience of the family. To leave an online expression of sympathy, please visit www.bailey-funeralhome.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Donahue, Derrick James

Derrick James Donahue, 45, of Broad Brook passed away suddenly on April 7, 2022. He was born September 28, 1976 in Springfield, MA, the son of Susan and Kenneth Donahue. Derrick loved his family very much and his dogs, Rascal, Ruckus, Conan and Chewy. He also loved his career as a life star nurse and felt that all his coworkers in the medical and fire fighting fields were like family. His passion was scuba diving in Curacao with his close friends, Julio and Sylvia and many others. He loved motorcyles. Derrick also loved animals. Besides his parents, Kenneth and Susan Donahue he is survived by his brother, Randall Donahue; sister, Ginny Donahue; and his love, Erin Duffy. He is also survived by a host of beloved aunts, uncles, cousins and friends. Relatives and friends are welcome to join the family from 4 to 8 PM on Friday, May 6, 2022 at the Bassinger & Dowd Funeral Home, 37 Gardner St. East Windsor, CT. There will be a private prayer service held for family. Burial will be private at the convenience of the family. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to Life star, your local ambulance service, fire department, police department or animal shelter. For online condolences please visit: www.pietrasfuneralhome.com

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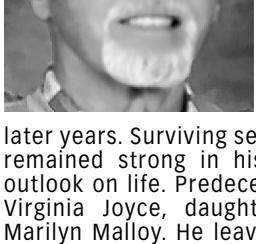
Hollman, Eileen

Eileen Hollman, nee Morrissey passed away April 14. She was predeceased by her parents, John and Martha Morrissey (McAuliffe), husband John Hollman and sister Mary Kennedy. She leaves her daughter Ellen Goodreau (Michael), twin granddaughters Mairi Fuini-Shepp (Shawn), Nicole Fuini (Jason) and 5 great grandchildren. She also leaves her nieces Eileen and Kathleen Kennedy, brother-in-law Robert Hollman (Kathleen) and family. At her request, there are no calling hours and burial will be private. A memorial mass will be held on May 28th at 11am at St. Timothy's Church in West Hartford. In Lieu of flowers, donations may be made to St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital, 501 St. Jude Place, Memphis, TN 38105 or to the Connecticut Humane Society, 701 Russell Rd., Newington, CT 06111. For online condolences please visit www.carmonfuneralhome.com

CARMON
Community Funeral Homes

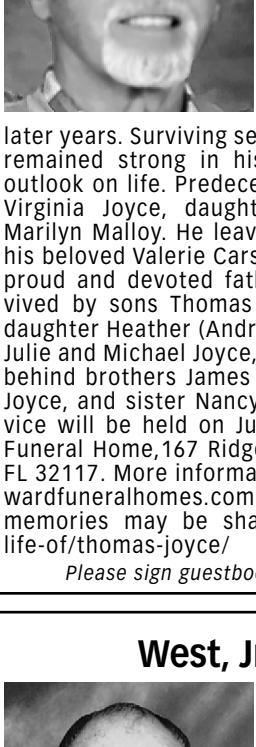
www.carmonfuneralhome.com

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Joyce, Sr. Thomas (M.)

Thomas M. Joyce, Sr. "Tommy", 81 of New Smyrna Beach, FL, left this life on April 21, 2022. Born in Hartford, CT, Tommy was a graduate of Bentley College, a U.S. Navy Veteran and successful Wall Street investment advisor. A gifted multi-sport high school athlete, he loved golf throughout his life, and travel and singing in his later years. Surviving several bouts with cancer, Tommy remained strong in his faith and carried a positive outlook on life. Predeceased by his parents James and Virginia Joyce, daughter Jennifer Joyce and sister Marilyn Malloy. He leaves behind to celebrate his life, his beloved Valerie Carson of New Smyrna Beach, FL. A proud and devoted father and grandfather he is survived by sons Thomas (Tracy) Joyce Jr., Scott Joyce, daughter Heather (Andrew) Astarita, and grandchildren Julie and Michael Joyce, and Katelyn Astarita. He leaves behind brothers James (Maureen) Joyce, Brian (Sandy) Joyce, and sister Nancy Albuquerque. A memorial service will be held on June 11 2022 at Dale Woodward Funeral Home, 167 Ridgewood Avenue, Daytona Beach, FL 32117. More information can be found at dalewoodwardfuneralhomes.com. Online condolences and memories may be shared at <https://everloved.com/life-of/thomas-joyce/>

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West, Jr., Howard E.

Howard Everett West, Jr., 84, of Farmington, CT, passed away at home on April 20, 2022. He was born in Paterson (Totowa), NJ, on August 24, 1937, to Howard E. West Sr. and Elizabeth Holmes West.

Howard was preceded in death by his father, Howard Everett West Sr., his mother, Elizabeth Holmes West, and his two sisters, Patricia Carnathan, and Elizabeth Reardon. He is survived by his loving wife of 63 years, Sally, and daughter, Jolee, both of Farmington, CT, his son, Howard, of Aurora, IL, and grandchildren Emily West and Kelly Imgrund.

A memorial Service will be held Saturday, May 7 at 11am, at Westminster Presbyterian Church, West Hartford, CT.

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OBITUARIES**Whitford, Kathryn Ann (Dunn)**

Kathryn Ann Dunn Whitford, 89, of Newington, passed away peacefully at home on April 21, 2022. Ann was born to John E. and Mary Hallisey Dunn on June 30, 1932, at Saint Francis Hospital. She was raised in West Hartford and attended Mount St. Joseph Academy. Ann married the love of her life, Howard B. Whitford, Jr. in 1956 and they made their home in Newington for the last 59 years. Ann was active for years in many Newington organizations, including Newington Child Study Club, Newington Student Assistance Fund and GFWC CT Newington-Wethersfield Woman's Club, in which she was chairperson of the scholarship committee. Ann also volunteered for Newington Human Services Food Bank. She liked to garden and tended the garden at Lucy Robbins Welles library. She loved the Hartford Symphony, stage productions and movies. Ann was an avid reader of mystery novels and a fierce card player. Ann and Howard loved spending part of each winter in Florida with their dearest friends, Ed and Zee Steben. Ann was very sociable and will be remembered for her kindness, sense of humor and Christmas fudge.

Ann leaves behind her adored husband, Howard, her daughters Janet Whitford and Susan Whitford Halpin, her grandchildren, Jeffrey Whitford, Gibson Halpin and Carter Halpin. Ann also leaves her wonderful friends Maureen Reale and Ann Sinatra. She was preceded in death by her sisters, Edwina Camposeo and Joan Dunn, and her brothers, John E. Dunn, Jr., Richard C. Dunn and Robert T. Dunn. There will be no calling hours and burial will be private. The family would like to thank Susan Hicks, Joan Gallagher, Stephanie Hubbard and Kathleen McGuire of Hartford Healthcare Hospice, angels all.

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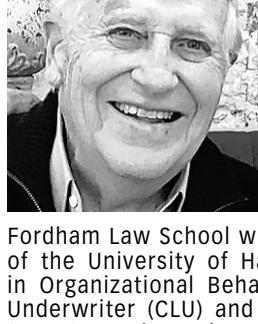
Gazda, Sharon

Sharon Gazda of East Windsor, beloved wife of Hank "Hench" Gazda for 50 years, passed away on Sunday, April 24, 2022. Sharon loved the ocean. Her favorite beach was Old Orchard Beach in Maine, where she traveled with Hench every summer and fall for the past 20 years. She made many good friends there. She also liked to travel by car for the past six winters to Galveston Island, TX, to visit family and friends. She loved the small pocket beaches there where you could drive onto the beach, and she could walk into the water. The drive to Texas and back was made more special by singing songs on the radio with Hench all the way down and back. Reminiscing about these fond memories comforted her at the end. Born in Hartford, daughter of the late Jay and Mary Bernadine Nichols Smith, she lived and touched many people's lives in East Windsor for 28 years. Sharon worked as a pediatric nurse for St. Francis Hospital in Hartford, a pharmacy assistant at Jack's Pharmacy in Hartford, a file clerk at Aetna in Hartford, and a clerk at Chester's Market and Hav-Mor market in East Windsor. Besides her husband, Sharon is survived by her sons; Robbie and his wife Z, of Cypress TX, Raymond of California and Mike of Windsor CT; her beloved grandchildren; Rayan and Maisyn; a sister Kathleen Murphy and her husband George of Ocala Florida; a brother Robert Smith of Wethersfield, CT; her lifelong friend and mother-in-law Dorothy Gazda; a special god-daughter Nicole Elliott and her Mom Kathy Elliott, who was a longtime friend. Sharon also leaves numerous nieces and nephews. She was predeceased by her brother David Smith and sister Christine Smith.

Graveside service will be Monday, May 16, 2022, at 1:00 pm at the State Veterans Cemetery, Middletown, CT. Online condolences may be made at www.SheehanHilbornBreen.com

**Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME**

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Lutz, Warren W

We sadly announce the passing of Warren W. Lutz, age 91, of Glastonbury, CT on April 26, 2022. Warren Lutz was born June 8, 1930 in the Bronx, New York. He attended local city elementary and high schools; he was a graduate of the Wharton School, University of Pennsylvania with a BS in Economics, a graduate of Fordham Law School with a J.D. in Law and a graduate of the University of Hartford with a Masters degree in Organizational Behavior. He was a Chartered Life Underwriter (CLU) and a Chartered Financial Planner (ChFP). At the University of Pennsylvania, he was a member of the Delta Kappa Epsilon (DKE) Fraternity. He was a member of the University of Pennsylvania Club in New York City.

Warren was an officer at the Travelers Insurance Company for which he worked for 40 years. During the Korean War he served in the U.S. Army in France and began a life long love of the country and its people. He returned many times and formed wonderful friendships there.

His past activities included: Charter President of the Madison Township New Jersey Jaycees, President of the Simsbury Little League, President of the Simsbury Babe Ruth League, Simsbury Midget Football League coach, Simsbury YMCA Youth Basketball coach, Simsbury Heart Fund Chairperson, Simsbury Latimer Lane PTA President, Simsbury Board of Education member, Chairperson Travelers Insurance Company United Way Employee campaign, and The Travelers Insurance Company Junior Achievement representative.

He leaves behind his wife, love and best friend of 32 years, Gay Lustig. Warren was pre-deceased by his former wife and the mother of his children, Noreen M. Lutz. He leaves five sons and a daughter: Bill Lutz, Bob Lutz, Steve Lutz (Sue), Rich Lutz, Chris Meunier, and Jim Lutz (Jenny), and former daughter-in-law Kim Lutz. He was blessed with 18 grandchildren and three great grandchildren who he encouraged academically, athletically and career wise to be the best that they can be, to also be good citizens and to be kind.

In accordance with Warren's wishes, his body has been donated to the Anatomical Gift Program for the Frank H. Netter MD School of Medicine at Quinnipiac University for medical education and research. For more information on anatomical donations or to make a monetary donation in Warren's name, please write Mr. Jesse Gomes at the Anatomical Gift Program at 275 Mount Carmel Ave., Hamden, CT 06518 or visit <https://www.qu.edu/schools/medicine/facilities-and-resources/human-anatomy-laboratory-anatomical-gift-program/>.

860 978-5616 Jesse Gomes

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Geng, Sonya (Starinovich)

Sonya Vera Geng, 84, passed away on Saturday, April 23, 2022 in Jupiter, FL. She lived in Jupiter for 34 years and Ct for 50 Years. Predeceased by her husband Russell Geng in 2000 after 45 years. She leaves behind her two sons, Paul Geng and wife Debbie, David Geng and wife Linda, both of Enfield, CT. Sonya loved to boat with Russell on the intercoastal and with her sons on the CT river. She enjoyed participating with Russell(KQ4ND "SK") and JTRG in their annual Field Day picnic in Jupiter and loved watching Dancing With The Stars. Per Sonya's request, no services will be held.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Hamma, William R.

William R. Hamma (Bill) passed away on December 17, 2021 at his home in Durham. A graveside Celebration of Life will be held on Saturday, May 7, 2022 at 10:00 a.m. in Mica Hill Cemetery, Mica Hill Road, Durham where full military honors will be accorded. In lieu of flowers, donations may be made to Middlesex Health Hospice Program, 28 Crescent Street, Middletown, CT 06457. To share memories or send condolences to the family, please visit www.doolittlefuneralservice.com.

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Ianni, Paul J

Paul Joseph Ianni, 76 of Oakland Park, FL, formerly of East Hartford, CT and former owner of the Eatery Restaurant in East Windsor, CT. passed away on February 25, 2022. He was predeceased by his parents, Carmela (DeLillo) Ianni and Frederick Ianni. Paul is survived by his sisters, Diana Grant Lombardo and her husband Paul, Rita Henson and her husband Keith, Linda Kunofsky and her husband Richard and Christine Delissio all of Glastonbury, CT. , many nieces, nephews, and great nieces and nephews. A Mass of Christian burial will be held on May 3, 2022 at 10:00 A.M. at St. Augustine Church, 55 Hopewell Road, South Glastonbury, CT. Burial will be private. In lieu of flowers, contributions can be made to Boward County Veterans Services, 3350 Hollywood Boulevard #190, Hollywood, FL 33021 or the Humane Society, 701 Russell Road, Newington, CT. 06111

Please sign guestbook at courant.com/obituaries

Leesha, Anthony J. "Tony"

Anthony J. "Tony" Leesha, 64, of West Hartford, died unexpectedly on December 11, 2021. Tony was the owner of Computer Repair. A Service will be held on Tuesday, May 10, 2022 at 12:00 noon at the Mt. St. Benedict Mausoleum. Online condolences may be made at www.SheeahanHilbornBreen.com

**Sheehan Hilborn Breen
FUNERAL HOME**

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IN MEMORIAM**In Loving Memory Of**

KYLE THOMAS CENTINI

4/30/1988 - 5/1/2010

Ky, take care of Bubba for me. Luv ya! Nana

In Loving Memory Of

KYLE CENTINI

04/30/1988-05/01/2010

Uncle, THANK YOU soooo much!!!
Andriana 13, Ava 12, Mason 11, Gabriella 9, Caleb 8
Love you to heaven and back!!!!!!

In Loving Memory Of

LEILA (LUSSIER) DIMAUR



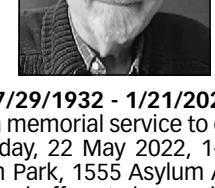
05/01/1942 -08/12/2021



We celebrated so many birthdays together in 73 years of friendship...yours May 1st and mine May 2nd. We would always talk about our 80th and how we would really celebrate. That won't be happening because you left us in August after fighting your battle with Alzheimers. So I will be celebrating without you, but you will be here in spirit and in our hearts and thoughts. Rest In Peace my dear friend...we love and miss you. Your BFF, Louise

In Loving Memory Of

LARS GULDAGER



7/29/1932 - 1/21/2022

Please join us for a memorial service to celebrate Lars Guldager's life on Sunday, 22 May 2022, 1-4 pm, at the Pond House at Elizabeth Park, 1555 Asylum Ave., West Hartford, CT. Join us for a send-off party he would love! To help plan the event, please RSVP to his daughter, Nikki Guldager (nikki.guldager@gmail.com), though RSVP is not required.

In Loving Memory Of

DONALD 'DJ' RULLI, JR.



5/1/1982-6/2/2015

Happy 40th DJ, normally over the hill, but, we are not over losing you. Forever missed, forever in our hearts, love always and forever, Mom, Dad, Zach, Leigh, Nanny, family and friends

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IN THE YEARS AHEAD, WHICH PATRIOTISM — THAT OF ZELENSKYY, PUTIN OR TRUMP — WILL AMERICA CHOOSE?



A Ukrainian serviceman walks amid the rubble of a building heavily damaged by multiple Russian bombardments in Kharkiv, Ukraine on Monday. FELIPE DANA/AP

A world of difference

By Robert Reich

We recoil in horror as Vladimir Putin and his forces wreak havoc and death on Ukraine — before our eyes and in real time. Both Putin and Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy repeatedly invoke “nationalism” and “patriotism,” but Putin’s nationalism and patriotism are manufactured to justify this brutal and unprovoked aggression while Zelenskyy’s words explain astonishing sacrifices now being made by ordinary Ukrainians to protect their freedom, democracy and homeland.

Donald Trump uses the same words, too — as do his acolytes in the Republican Party. His version of national patriotism is closer to Putin’s than to Zelenskyy’s.

Trump-Rеспublican patriotism is about triumphing and dominating. Although America is a nation of immigrants, Trump’s goal is to keep immigrants out.

“A nation ‘without borders’ is not a nation at all,” he has said. It is also about keeping America first. “The American People will come first once again,” he says. Trump-Republican patriotism is zero-sum, just as is Putin’s when it comes to Ukraine (or any other nation that was once part of the Soviet “empire”) — either we win or they win. And who or what is America for Trump Republicans? Essentially, white and Christian.

Trump Republicans demand symbolic gestures of patriotism,



“Ukraine President Volodymyr Zelenskyy’s patriotism ... isn’t founded on zero-sum superiority or exclusion, or on symbolic gestures, or on exaggerated notions of personal ambition. It’s based on common sacrifice for the common good,” writes Robert Reich. SARAHBETH MANEY/THE NEW YORK TIMES

such as standing for the national anthem and saluting the flag. But they don’t ask for personal sacrifice because they reject any notion of the common good. They view the nation as a site for self-centered transactions with no deeper and more enduring meaning than immediate self-gratification — a zone of self-promotion and narcissistic extravagance, where individuals can extend their ambition through iPhones and selfies and other technologies of instant gratification.

Zelenskyy patriotism is the opposite. It isn’t founded on zero-sum superiority or exclusion, or on symbolic gestures, or on exaggerated

notions of personal ambition. It’s based on common sacrifice for the common good.

At times in our history America has come close to Zelenskyy patriotism. We have understood the need for mutual sacrifice — of everyone taking on a fair share of the burden of keeping America going. That includes volunteering for local school boards and city councils, blowing the whistle on abuses of power, and paying taxes in full rather than seeking loopholes or squirreling money abroad. Sometimes it has required the supreme sacrifice. We are, after all, the descendants of Nathan Hale — soldier and spy for the Continen-

tal Army during the Revolutionary War, who famously declared just before being executed by the British in 1776 that his only regret was having “but one life to lose for my country.”

America’s form of Zelenskyy patriotism does not pander to divisiveness. It confirms and strengthens the “we” in “we the people of the United States.” It celebrates our diversity and fights to uplift the voices of America — Black people, women, gay and trans people, younger Americans. It believes that America should welcome refugees and others fleeing from violence or seeking a better life, as memorialized in Emma Lazarus’ famous lines on the Statue of Liberty:

“Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free.”

America’s form of Zelenskyy patriotism doesn’t hate our government. It recognizes that government is the means by which we come together to solve our common problems. We don’t like everything our government does, but we work to improve it rather than attack or undermine it.

We have never fully lived up to these patriotic ideals, of course, but they have fueled our commitment to social justice. The films of Frank Capra, the poems of Walt Whitman and Langston Hughes, and the songs of Woodie Guthrie, express loving devotion to America while turning that love into a demand for justice.

Turn to Patriotism, Page 2

Democratic convention endorsement worth battling to win



Kevin Rennie

For the first time in 20 years, neither major political party will feature a primary for governor. Democratic incumbent Ned Lamont and Republican Bob Stefanowski will be endorsed at their respective party conventions next weekend.

The nominations set up a repeat of 2018’s contest when both won August primaries. Lamont, in his third bid for statewide office, went on to defeat Stefanowski, making his debut in politics, winning by 3 percentage

points.

The action at the Democratic convention is on two under-ticket races for secretary of the state and treasurer. No Democrat has lost an under-ticket race since 1994. No endorsed under-ticket candidate has lost a primary since 1998. The Democratic convention endorsement remains a prize worth battling to win.

Democrats devote considerable time to debating regional, ethnic and gender diversity on their ticket. The party has nominated only white men for governor or U.S. Senate in the 21st century, so the nomination campaigns for secretary of the state, treasurer, comptroller and attorney general carry the burden of balancing the diversity

variables.

Candidates who do not win the party’s endorsement may participate in an August primary if they receive 15% of delegate votes. Definitions of winning at a convention can be fluid.

The competition for outgoing Secretary of the State Denise Merrill’s office has been crowded and busy. Maritza Bond, state Sen. Matt Lesser and state Reps. Josh Elliott, Hilda Santiago and Stephanie Thomas have been raising money and wooing delegates for months with no clear front-runner emerging. Santiago has the endorsement of her boss, U.S. Sen. Chris Murphy, D-Conn., but that boost failed to unleash a stampede of delegates to the Meriden Democrat.

Lesser may have the most

delegate commitments going into the convention. The star of the campaign has been Thomas. The Norwalk Democrat’s dynamic and warm presence has impressed party loyalists. If Lesser fails to win on the first ballot, delegates could turn to Thomas to break a stalemate.

State Treasurer Shawn Wooden’s surprise April 7 announcement that he will not seek a second term ignited a scramble for his spot. The job has been held by a Black Hartford Democrat since 1986 with only brief interruptions. One break in the tradition included the brief tenure of Republican Paul Silvester, who was engulfed in scandal.

Two New Haven Democrats, Karen DuBois-Walton and Erick Russell, have had to cobble

together campaigns in three weeks, relying on phone calls and surrogates to woo delegates. Two hometown contenders have created a local duel among the convention’s largest delegation, New Haven.

Greenwich Democrat Dita Bhargava is the third treasurer candidate. She ran an unsuccessful primary campaign against Wooden four years ago, winning 43% of the vote. Bhargava will try to reassemble her 2018 supporters. That should be enough to qualify for a primary but not the convention endorsement.

If Lesser and Russell were to emerge as endorsed candidates, Democrats would risk including

Turn to Rennie, Page 2

Helen Bennett
Executive Editor
hbennett@courant.com

OPINION

COURANT.COM/OPINION

EDITORIAL

Time to let justice take its course

It's now up to a judge and jury to decide justice.

We already know that a state trooper shot and killed Mubarak Soulemane on Jan. 15, 2020.

Soulemane was 19. He was a Black man.

His death at the hands of police inspired his family and others over the past two years to hold rallies, news conferences and vigils, and file a lawsuit in their effort to seek justice and keep alive the memory of a beloved son and brother.

The state launched an investigation into the fatal shooting. The Office of Inspector General took over responsibility for the investigation on Nov. 3, 2021.

And last week state trooper Brian D. North turned himself in on a warrant. Charged with first-degree manslaughter, he is free on a \$50,000 bond.

The arrest followed a very extensive investigation by Inspector General Robert J. Devlin Jr. Devlin concluded in his 133-page report that North's use of deadly force was unjustified.

Soulemane's family said following the arrest that they felt the weight they've been bearing since Mubarak's death lightened just a bit.

It would be difficult to know the impact a death in this manner would have on a family, but the Soulemanes have shared some of that lasting anguish publicly in their quest to bring change to Connecticut and beyond.

The family has been upfront and honest about Mubarak Soulemane being diagnosed with schizophrenia and that they



Omo Klusum Mohammed, mother of Mubarak Soulemane, the New Haven teen fatally shot by a state trooper on Jan. 15, 2020, appears at a news conference following her son's death. COURANT FILE

believe he was in crisis the day he died: He tried to steal an iPhone from an AT&T store, assaulted a Lyft driver, stole a car, then led police on a high-speed chase, armed with a kitchen knife.

He was still clutching that knife after he crashed off Interstate 95's Exit 43 in West Haven and was surrounded by police. North told investigators that he shot Soulemane after he "became concerned for the safety" of another trooper and a West Haven officer.

"As a result, I discharged my

duty firearm to eliminate the threat," North said according to the Devlin report.

But Devlin also raised questions about "inconsistencies" in what North told investigators, including that North reported being concerned the other trooper and officer would attempt to grab Soulemane and be injured doing so.

"In the present case, that standard of reasonableness was not met," Devlin said.

The report also critiques North for not trying to de-escalate the

situation before using deadly force.

"Only thirty-six seconds elapsed between North taking a position next to the driver window and his firing his gun through that window," Devlin wrote in the report. "Would a reasonable officer have made further attempts to talk to Soulemane either himself or possibly waiting until an officer with crisis intervention training could respond?"

It should be noted that the Connecticut State Police Union,

while offering the Soulemane family condolences for the loss of Mubarek, disagreed with Devlin's decision.

The union statement said that, "We are disappointed that the Inspector General has made the decision to prosecute a Trooper, who was forced to make a split-second decision during these dangerous and rapidly evolving circumstances."

Devlin's report conveys the most information the public has received about this case to date. In it we learn for the first time some of what North told investigators and that Devlin found the alleged inconsistencies in his statements.

Devlin also completed the affidavit used to arrest North. He notes in the document that he was previously an appellate court judge for a year and was a Superior Court judge for 26 years.

Devlin is not the judge on the criminal case against North.

That case must play out at Superior Court in Milford, where cases that originate in West Haven go. North is scheduled to be arraigned there Tuesday. He could face up to 20 years in prison if convicted.

Part of what is likely to be considered is that under state statutes, a police officer is only justified in using deadly physical force on another person when the officer believes such force is needed to protect themselves or another person from deadly force.

It is up to the Superior Court to ensure there is justice in this case for Mubarek Soulemane and his family. The court must also make sure North gets justice too.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Op-ed wrong; UConn Health not seeking 'bailout'

I'm responding to an op-ed regarding UConn Health [Opinion, Page 10, April 19, "It's time to reform our health care system"].

To correct the public record, again, UConn Health is not seeking a "bailout" but its portion of the state-approved salary increases that were recommended for every state agency and relief from unfunded legacy costs imposed on it. UConn Health, a state agency, receives 24% of its budget from the state in support of its education and research missions. The rest is self-generated through patient care, grant awards and tuition.

The governor's budget is calling for greater funding to reduce UConn Health's unfair cost-share of the state's unfunded legacy costs that have accumulated for years and that the state is working to pay down.

Currently, for nearly every state agency, the state funds these legacy costs — but not for UConn Health. These state-determined costs are out of UConn Health's control and have skyrocketed by 170% since 2010.

In fiscal year 2022 our unfunded state legacy charges are reaching \$58.7 million and rising next year to \$60.7 million.

UConn Health is an important and valued state asset and public service providing \$2.2 billion annually in economic benefit while remaining the largest producer of Connecticut's future health care workforce, a state resource that provides high-quality care for patients from every single Connecticut town and income bracket.

Dr. Bruce T. Liang, Avon

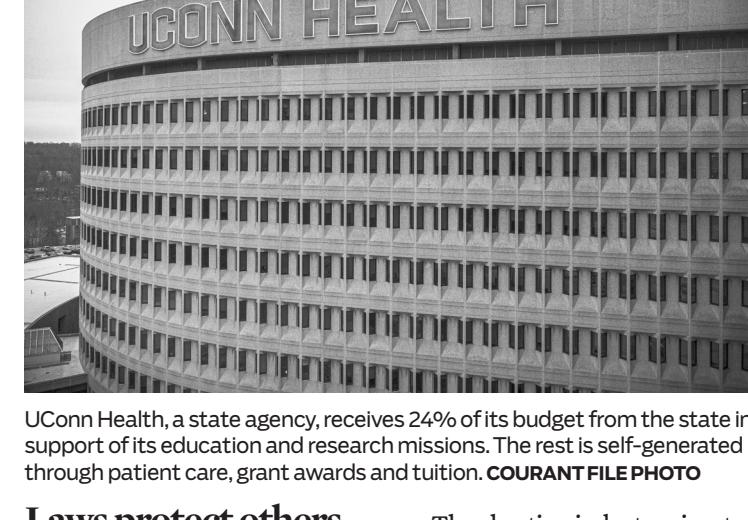
The writer is interim CEO of UConn Health and dean of UConn School of Medicine.

DeSantis can't tout free speech, vilify it

Regarding the article on Florida Gov. Ron DeSantis' intention to terminate Disney's special district status, Reedy Creek, because he didn't like what the company said about legislation commonly referred to as the "Don't Say Gay" bill: The governor is an Ivy League law graduate — surely he can see his hypocrisy in applauding the First Amendment protection afforded to corporations under Citizens United vs. FEC to contribute money to campaign PACS under free speech, yet vilifying Disney for the same exercise of its right to free speech.

David P. Mester, Hartford

The writer is a lawyer.



UConn Health, a state agency, receives 24% of its budget from the state in support of its education and research missions. The rest is self-generated through patient care, grant awards and tuition. COURANT FILE PHOTO

Laws protect others, such as unborn babies

Right to life is not about a woman's right to choose what happens to her body. No rational person would suggest a woman does not have the right to control what happens to her body.

Very few laws regulate activities that affect only that person. Most laws come into play when a person's actions rise to the level of affecting someone else. And so it goes with abortion. I would imagine that if a mother considering abortion believed that her baby was in fact a person, she would never consider it.

The abortion industry aims to convince mothers their baby is not a person. Science has proved otherwise. If you look up "what is needed to survive," the likely answer will include air, water, food and shelter. This law of nature supports the fact that a baby is a person from conception and should be afforded the same rights as any other living person.

If someone decided to kill another person, it would be unlawful regardless of whether that person was in front of them, beside them or behind them. The same should be true for the person inside of them.

Justin Murphy, Madison

Rennie

from Page 1

only one woman on their ticket, Lt. Gov. Susan Bysiewicz. That will be far fewer than Republicans. They are on course to nominate women for lieutenant governor, attorney general and comptroller.

Republicans will also endorse

a woman to face U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, a Greenwich Democrat, in November. Former House Republican Leader Themos Klarides of Madison looks like she will text her way to a convention win. Greenwich Republican Leora Levy is emerging as the surprise of the campaign for activists' support. Levy, the party's national committeewoman, has quickly

developed a crisp pitch, emphasizing her rags-to-riches story as a refugee from Cuba. The retired commodity trader included in her introductory video the obligatory Republican outrage at other immigrants still yearning to be free.

Levy is a practiced political shape-shifter. Thirty years ago, she contributed \$1,000 to Democrat Chris Dodd's U.S.

Senate reelection campaign. In 2016, Levy was a leading supporter of Jeb Bush's presidential campaign against Donald Trump. Not long after calling the former head of Trump University "vulgar" and "ill-mannered," Levy was all in for him.

Trump picked Levy to serve as his ambassador to Chile. The U.S. Senate never took up her nomination. Levy cast Connecti-

cum's 28 "spicy votes" for Trump at the 2020 Republican National Convention. That may be enough to satisfy the 15% of the convention delegates Levy needs to qualify for a raucous three-way primary with Klarides and Fairfield Republican Peter Lumaj.

Kevin Rennie of South Windsor is a lawyer and a former Republican state senator and representative.

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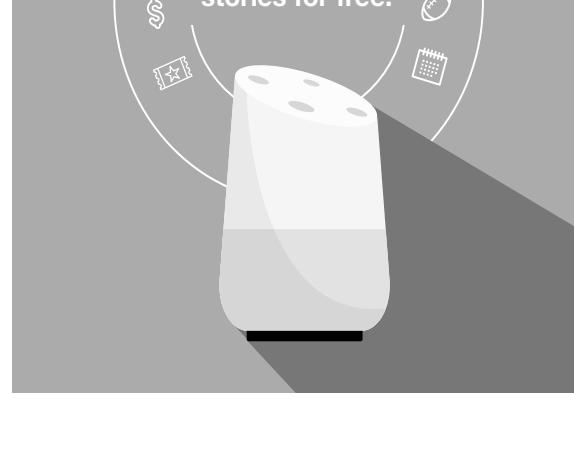
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COMMENTARY

United States is again the ‘arsenal of Democracy’



Paul Krugman

When Russia invaded Ukraine, the idea that it might lose seemed far-fetched. Vladimir Putin appeared to have a powerful, modernized army, supported by a defense budget a dozen times larger than

Ukraine's. You didn't have to buy into Ted Cruz-style fantasies about the prowess of a military that wasn't "woke" and "emasculated" to expect a quick Russian battlefield victory.

And even after Ukraine's miraculous defeat of Russia's initial attack, one had to wonder about the longer-term prospects. Before the war, Russia's economy was about eight times bigger than Ukraine's; despite the toll that sanctions are taking on Russian production, the destruction in Ukraine wrought by the invasion probably means that the gap is even bigger now. So you might have expected Russia to eventually win a battle of attrition through sheer weight of resources.

But that isn't what seems to be happening. Nobody can be sure about the extent to which Putin himself understands how the war is going; are his terrified officials willing to tell him the truth? But the way Russia is lashing out, with dire but vague threats against the West and self-destructive tantrums like Wednesday's cutoff of natural gas flows to Poland and Bulgaria, suggests that at least somebody in Moscow is worried that time is not on Russia's side. And U.S. officials are beginning to talk optimistically, not just about holding Russia off, but about outright Ukrainian victory.

How can this be possible? The answer is that America, while not directly engaged in combat, is once again doing what it did in the year before Pearl Harbor: We, with help from our allies, are serving as the "arsenal of democracy," giving the defenders of freedom the material means to keep fighting.



U.S. Secretary of Defense Lloyd Austin, center back to the camera, Secretary of State Antony Blinken, third from left, and Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy, center, attend a meeting April 24 in Kyiv, Ukraine. UKRAINIAN PRESIDENTIAL PRESS OFFICE

For those who aren't familiar with this history: Britain in 1940, like Ukraine in 2022, had unexpected success against a seemingly unstoppable enemy, as the Royal Air Force defeated the Luftwaffe's attempt to achieve air superiority, a necessary precondition for invasion.

Nonetheless, by late 1940 the British were in dire straits: Their war effort required huge imports, including both military hardware and essentials like food and oil, and they were running out of money.

Franklin D. Roosevelt responded with the Lend-Lease Act, which made it possible to transfer large quantities of arms and food to the beleaguered British. This aid wasn't enough to turn the tide, but it gave Winston Churchill the resources he needed to hang on, which eventually set the stage for Allied victory.

Now Lend-Lease has been revived, and large-scale military aid is flowing to Ukraine, not just from the United States but also from many of our allies.

Thanks to this aid, the arithmetic of attrition is actually working strongly against Putin. Russia's economy may be much bigger than Ukraine's, but it's small compared with the U.S. economy, let alone the combined economies of the Western allies. And with its limited economic base, Russia doesn't appear to have the capacity to replace its battlefield losses; Western experts believe, for example, that the fighting in Ukraine has cost Russia two years' worth of tank production.

Ukraine's army, by contrast, is getting better equipped, with ever more heavy weapons, by the day. Assuming Congress agrees to President Joe Biden's request for an additional \$33 billion in aid — a sum we

can easily afford — cumulative Western support for Ukraine will soon come close to Russia's annual military spending.

In other words, as I said, time appears to be on Ukraine's side. Unless the Russians can pull off the kind of dramatic battlefield success that has eluded them so far — such as a blitzkrieg-style assault that encircles a large part of Ukraine's forces — and do it very soon, the balance of power seems set to keep shifting in Ukraine's favor.

And let's be clear about two things.

First, if Ukraine really does win, it will be a triumph for the forces of freedom everywhere. Would-be aggressors and war criminals will be given pause. Western enemies of democracy, many of whom were huge Putin fanboys just the other day, will have been given an object lesson in the difference between macho posturing and true strength.

Second, while credit for this victory, if it materializes, will, of course, go above all to the Ukrainians themselves, this wouldn't have been possible without brave, effective leadership in some (if, alas, not all) Western nations.

Whatever else you may say about Boris Johnson, Britain has been a rock in this crisis. Poland and other Eastern European nations have risen to the occasion, defying Russian threats. And Biden has done an incredible job, holding the Western alliance together while supplying Ukraine with the weapons it needs.

Previous U.S. presidents have given stirring speeches about freedom: "Tear down this wall," "Ich bin ein Berliner." And it's good that they have. But Biden has arguably done more to defend freedom, in substantive ways that go beyond mere words, than any president since Harry Truman.

I wonder whether and when he'll get the credit he deserves.

Krugman is a columnist for The New York Times.



A customer shops at a grocery store in Mount Prospect, Illinois. The USDA says the food inflation rate will soar to its highest since 2008. NAM Y. HUH/AP

7 lessons Dems need to learn — fast



David Brooks

We all make mistakes; the question is, do we learn from them? Over the past couple of years people on the left side of the political and

cultural spectrum have made their share. These have contributed to the Democrats' extremely bleak political prospects going into the midterms. Far worse, it is now quite plausible that Donald Trump could win reelection in 2024.

If we're going to prevent that kind of catastrophe, it might be a good idea to learn a few relevant lessons:

It is possible to overstimulate the economy. Many progressives persuasively argued that Barack Obama didn't go big enough to stimulate the economy after the financial crisis. It appears the United States has now gone too big. Inflation is at a 40-year high. Real wages have fallen. Almost 70% of Americans think the economy is in poor shape.

Much of the inflation is being driven by global energy and supply chain issues. But, at 8.5%, inflation in America is a lot higher than in, say, Europe. Some economists estimate that the Democrats' \$1.9 trillion American Rescue Plan added 2 to 4 percentage points to the U.S. inflation rate.

Law and order is not just a racist dog whistle. Yes, from George Wallace to Donald Trump, that rhetoric has been used as a dog whistle. Yes, every discussion

of crime and policing needs to include the outrageous racial disparities that permeate the system. At the same time, it is true that the first job of government is to establish order so people can feel secure. Democrats do not have an effective anti-crime posture at a time when crime is surging. In New York City, for example, while murder rates fell, overall crime was up 37% in March compared with a year earlier, driven by a 59% increase in grand larceny auto, a 48% increase in robbery and a 40% increase in burglaries. Shootings went up 16%. According to a Gallup poll, 53% of Americans now say they worry a "great deal" about crime.

Don't politicize everything. Education has traditionally been a Democratic strong point. A Washington Post-ABC News poll in 2006 found that voters trusted Democrats over Republicans to do a better job handling education by more than 20 points. When the Post-ABC poll asked about the issue in November, the advantage was down to 3 points. Part of the drop is probably the teacher unions' preference to keep schools closed during the pandemic, part may be the attacks by some progressives on magnet schools and gifted programs, part the perception that progressives care more about their cultural agenda than actual education. Republicans have certainly politicized education, too, but for some reason it seems to work for them while it doesn't for Democrats.

Border security is not just a Repub-

lican talking point. During one of the Democratic presidential primary debates in 2019, almost all candidates onstage backed the idea of decriminalizing unauthorized border crossings. That sent the signal that the Democratic Party had shifted significantly to the left on immigration. Today, 59% of voters believe that the U.S. has an "effectively" open southern border.

President Joe Biden never swooned for decriminalization the way many of his opponents did, but he has not yet found a policy that advances progressive goals while assuaging the concerns of border state voters. Some 38% of voters approve of his handling of this issue.

"People of color" is not a thing. It was always odd to create a group identity that covered a vast majority of humanity. In this country the phrase "people of color" sometimes covers over a wide array of ethnic experiences. It contributes to a simplistic oppressor/oppressed narrative in which white Republicans are supposed to be on one side and POC are supposed to be on the other.

That made it harder to anticipate that Trump would make the impressive gains among Hispanics in 2020 that he did. Hispanics still lean Democratic, 48% to 23%, according to a recent LCR-Miami poll, but their loyalty to the Democrats may be weakening. According to the same poll, more Democratic Hispanics have switched their party affiliation in the past

year than Republican Hispanics. More Hispanics agreed than disagreed with the statement "The Democratic Party has been kidnapped by progressives."

Deficits do matter. The Committee for a Responsible Federal Budget estimates the government will spend an average of \$545 billion a year paying interest on the national debt over the next nine years. If interest rates rise 2 percentage points above the Congressional Budget Office's projections, average annual interest costs will increase by \$375 billion. That burden will crowd out spending on all other programs.

The New Deal happened once. Year after year, Democrats imagine that if they can hand people checks and benefits, they will be rewarded with votes, allowing them to build a dominant majority coalition. It's not that simple. I enthusiastically supported many of these policies, but we live in an age in which culture, values and identity issues drive politics at least as much as policy.

The Democrats' largest problem is this: We are living in an age of fear, insecurity and disorder on an array of fronts. The Republicans have traditionally been known as the party of toughness and order. Democrats are going to have to find a posture that is tough on disorder, and tough on the causes of disorder.

Brooks is a columnist for The New York Times.

SPECIAL PUBLICATION

Hartford Courant

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TheaterWorks hosts riotous romp 'Zoey's Perfect Wedding'

By Christopher Arnott

Hartford Courant

When TheaterWorks Hartford announced that it wanted to do "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" for the summer of 2021, it was at a time when folks were still hesitant about having real weddings indoors. The theater ended up being closed for most of that year, with the company doing virtual shows and the memorable outdoor play "Walden" that summer instead.

The time again seems right again for a big noisy wedding.

"Zoey's Perfect Wedding" is a riotous comedy by Matthew Lopez, whose drag-club adventure "The Legend of Georgia McBride" was a crowd-pleasing hit for TheaterWorks in 2018. Lopez is also known for such heavy dramas as "The Whipping Man," "Somewhere" and "Reverberation" — all of which were done by Hartford Stage between 2012 and 2015 — as well as the 2018 London and Broadway

sensation "The Inheritance," an epic literary take on gay life in the 20th century loosely inspired by an E.M. Forster novel.

As a playwright, Lopez can seemingly conjure up any tone or emotion he wants, and for "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" he has created a raucous comedy about a Brooklyn wedding that, as his stage directions suggest, "wants to be elegant but it was clearly done on the cheap" and includes a ceremony in which "a lot of Rilke" is recited.

A lot goes wrong at the reception. TheaterWorks Marketing Director Freddie McInerney says that "instead of 'fiasco,' we're using the phrase 'disastrously fun.'"

Turn to Wedding, Page 3

Rachel B. Joyce, right, as Zoey the bride in a rehearsal of "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" coming to TheaterWorks Hartford through June 5. MIKE MARQUES



SEASON PREVIEW

Hartford Stage announces eclectic 2022-23 season, including two new shows, Agatha Christie and Shakespeare

By Christopher Arnott

Hartford Courant

Having nearly made it through its first full season since the pandemic, Hartford Stage has announced its full 2022-23 slate of six shows, including two new plays, a classic African American drama from the 1950s, the return of both William Shakespeare and Agatha Christie plus the second go-round of the holiday show "It's a Wonderful Life."

"Of the six plays, four are by women," notes Hartford Stage Artistic Director Melia Bensussen. They include the Agatha Christie murder mystery "The Mousetrap"; Alice Childress' landmark Black backstage drama "Trouble in Mind"; and two new plays, Kate Snodgrass' "The Art of Burning," and Christine Quintana's "Espejos: Clean."

Hartford Stage's current 2021-22 season will end next month with the new musical "Kiss My Aztec" by John Leguizamo, Tony Taccone and Benjamin Velez. This was the first full season to be overseen by Hartford Stage artistic director Melia Bensussen, who joined the theater in early 2019, programmed half the 2019-20 season with her predecessor Darko Tresnjak and then saw the next two seasons compromised by the COVID-19 pandemic.



Hartford Stage artistic director Melia Bensussen. STEPHEN DUNN / SPECIAL TO THE COURANT

Cynthia Rider.

'The Mousetrap' by Agatha Christie

Directed by Jackson Gay; Oct. 13 through Nov. 6

"The Mousetrap," which

Christie based on her radio

play (later a short story)

"Three Blind Mice," opened

in London's West End in 1952

and ran there continuously

until COVID closed it for

14 months in 2020-21, after

which it opened again. It's

the longest running play in theater

history, which is all the more

remarkable because, since

Exhibits

from Page 1

Hartford: "Lamentations Tina Freeman" is up until May 15. "Your Absence Is My Monument: Merik Goma" is up until May 22. "Battlegrounds Elizabeth Flood" is up until June 12. realartways.org.

Main Street in Hartford: A stroll down Main Street provides ample artworks to view. In front of the library, there is a sculpture by David Hayes and a statue of Mark Twain. Between City Hall and Wadsworth Atheneum is Alexander Calder's massive red "Stegosaurus." In front of the Atheneum are a newly refurbished statue of Nathan Hale and sculptures by Conrad Shawcross, Tony Smith and William Turnbull. Across the street from the Atheneum is Carl Andre's "Stone Field Sculpture." Also across the street from the Atheneum is the Bushnell Towers sculpture garden. thewadsworth.org.

New England Air Museum, 36 Perimeter Road in Windsor Locks

An exhibit about New England women who made significant contributions to the history of aviation will be on permanent display. neam.org.

Mercy Gallery at Loomis Chaffee School, 4 Batchelder Road in Windsor

Artwork by Sarah Lutz is on view. loomischaffee.org/arts/mercy-gallery.

Connecticut Historical Society, One Elizabeth St. in Hartford

"Formative: Frederick Law Olmsted in Connecticut" is up to Aug. 28. "Common Struggle Individual Experience: An Exhibition About Mental Health" will be up until Oct. 15. Permanent exhibits are "Making Connecticut" and "Inn & Tavern Signs of Connecticut." chs.org.

Monastery Gallery of Art at the Holy Family Retreat Center, 303 Tuxis Road in West Hartford: "In the Spirit of Trust" is up until June 19. monasterygallery.art.

Galleries @ WORK_SPACE, 903 Main St. in Manchester: "Art of Pride," works reflecting on the LGBTQ experience, is up from May 6 to June 30. workspacemanchester.com.

Widener Gallery in Austin Arts Center at Trinity College, 300 Summit St. in Hartford: An exhibit of paintings inspired by Ireland by Professor of Fine Arts Joseph Byrne is up until May 6. trincoll.edu.

Chase Family Gallery at Mandell JCC, 335 Bloomfield Ave. in West Hartford:

Visual Passages: Marjorie Feldman" is up until May 10. mandelljcc.org.

Lost Acres Vineyard, 80 Lost Acres Road in North Granby: "The Land That Feeds Us: Body, Mind and Soul," artworks by Kate Emery of Farmington, will be on view April 29 to May 30. lostacresvineyard.com.

Charter Oak Cultural Center, 21 Charter Oak Ave. in Hartford: "Three Women Expressing the Languages of Color" is up until May 13. It features work by Cynthia Cooper, Suzanne Jill Levy and Clara Narette. charteroakcenter.org.

Wadsworth Atheneum Museum of Art, 600 Main St. in Hartford: "Nevine Mahmoud / MATRIX 188" is up to May 1. "Milton Avery" will be up to June 5. "Edward Russell Thaxter: Love's First Dream" is up to July 3. thewadsworth.org.

Art Gallery at University of Saint Joseph, 1678 Asylum Ave. in West Hartford

"Four Works by Ann McCoy" is up to May 28. usj.edu/arts/art-museum.

Clare Gallery at St. Patrick-St. Anthony Church, 285 Church St. in Hartford: "Beyond the Subject: Work by Fr. Michael Reyes O.F.M." will be up to May 23. spsact.org.

Gallery on the Green, on the town green in Canton: "A. Walter Kendra: A Life in Art" plus a group show, "Down to Earth," are up to May 21. galleryonthegreen.org.

Tolland County

William Benton Museum of Art, 245 Glenbrook Road at UConn in Storrs: "Tradition and Transformation: Mithila Art of India" is up until July 31. benton.uconn.edu.

Homer Babbidge Library on the campus of UConn in Storrs: "Beth Pite, Col- orscapes" is on view through the end of summer. lib.uconn.edu/about/exhibits/.

Saxton B. Little Free Library, 319 Route 87 in Columbia: Artwork by Helen Cantrell is on show until May 31. columbiabclibrary.org.

New London County

Hygienic Art Galleries, 79 Bank St. in New London: "Collective Chaos," a show of work by Justin Fritch, Bill Herzfeld and Matt Makela, is up to May 20. hygienic.org.

Gilbert V. Boro Studio 80 + Sculpture Grounds, 80

Lyme St. in Old Lyme: The sculpture grounds, with works by Boro and other artists, is on private property but is open to the public. Boro asks guests not to enter any buildings. A YouTube video about the grounds, part of the Smithsonian Channel documentary series "America: Over the Edge," can be seen at gilbertboro.com.

Mystic Museum of Art, 9 Water St.: "More than Hot Type," a printmaking exhibit, is up to May 29. mysticmuseumofart.org.

Hill-Stead Museum, 35 Mountain Road in Farmington: "A Perfect Perch: The Architect's Chair" with chairs designed by Theodore Pope Riddle and members of the Centerbrook Chairshop, will be on view until May 22. hillstead.org.

Lyman Allyn Art Museum, 625 Williams St. in New London: "'Unbeatable Women: Power and Innovation in the Work of Women Photographers'" is up to June 19. lymanallyn.org.

Lyme Art Association, 90 Lyme St. in Old Lyme: "Expanding Visions: Traditional and Beyond" and "Hudson Valley Art Association's 89th Annual National Exhibition" is up to June 2. lymeartassociation.org.

LaGrua Center, 32 Water St. in Stonington: "I'll Follow the Sun: The Photography of Shelley Lawrence Kirkwood" is on view May 6 to June 30. lagruacenter.org.

Middlesex County

Ezra and Cecile Zilkha Gallery at Wesleyan University in Middletown: Senior Thesis Showcase is up from May 3 to 21. wesleyan.edu/cfa.

College of East Asian Studies Gallery at Wesleyan University in Middletown: "Strong Bodies for the Revolution: Pursuing Health and Power in the People's Republic of China" is up to May 13. wesleyan.edu/cfa.

Spectrum Art Gallery, 61 Main St. in the Centerbrook section of Essex: "Animals and People in the Landscape" will be up until May 8. spectrumartgallery.org.

Litchfield County

James Barron Art, 17 Old Barn Road in Kent: "Deborah Brown: The Shadow Paintings, Four Seasons" and "Janet Sobel and Ashley Shapiro: Spiritual Connection" are up to May 21. Open by appointment only. jamesbaronart.com.

NXTHVN, 169 Henry St. in New Haven: "Let Them Roam Freely," work by Hong Hong and Darryl DeAngelo Terrell, is up to May 15. nxthvn.com.

ronart.com.

Craven Contemporary, 4 Fulling Lane in Kent: "Quite an Eyeful" works by artists who focus on eyes, is up until May 8. Artists include Julie Cockburn, Alice Neel, David Shrigley, Chris Levine, Tony Oursler, Mickalene Thomas and Alex Prager. artnet.com/galleries/craven-contemporary/artworks.

Kenise Barnes Fine Art, 7 Fulling Lane in Kent: "Unexpected Windows: New Paintings by Elizabeth Gourlay" is up to May 15. kbfa.com.

Carol Corey Fine Art, 6 North Main St. in Kent: "Andy Harper: Parallel Botany" is up from April 30 to June 5. carlocoreyfineart.com.

David M. Hunt Library, 63 Main St. in the Falls Village section of Canaan: "Robert Cronin: Recent Paintings" is up to May 6. huntlibrary.org.

Five Points Gallery, 33 Main St. in Torrington: "Portraits in Red: Missing and Murdered Indigenous People Painting Project," with work by Nayana LaFond, and "Native Voices," with work by Justin Beatty, Nate Begay, Patrick Collins, Jason Montgomery and Rebekah Jarvey, will both be up to May 7. fivepointsarts.org.

New Haven County

Yale University Art Gallery, 1111 Chapel St. in New Haven: "Midcentury Abstraction: A Closer Look" and "Recent Acquisitions" are up until June 26. "Gold in America: Artistry, Memory, Power" is up until July 10. artgallery.yale.edu.

Yale Center for British Art, 1080 Chapel St. in New Haven: "Bridget Riley: Perceptual Abstraction" is up until July 24. britishart.yale.edu.

Artspace, 50 Orange St. in New Haven: "Footnotes and other embedded stories" is up from April 30 to June 25. Artists are Leonard Galmon, Ruby Gonzalez Hernandez, Allison Minto, Julia Rooney, and Joseph Smolinski. artspacecnh.org.

Palestine Museum US, 1764 Litchfield Turnpike, Suite 200, in Woodbridge: The museum is open by appointment only at palestinemuseum.us.

NXTHVN, 169 Henry St. in New Haven: "Let Them Roam Freely," work by Hong Hong and Darryl DeAngelo Terrell, is up to May 15. nxthvn.com.

Gallery at the Institute Library, 847 Chapel St. in New Haven: "Cover Story II: Return to the Stacks" is up until May 10. The exhibit is a collection of intriguing book covers. institutelibrary.org

Henry Whitfield State Museum, 248 Old Whitfield St. in Guilford: "Weld-Built: The Guilford Architecture of William E. Weld" is on view. portal.ct.gov/ECD-Henry-WhitfieldStateMuseum.

New Haven Museum, 114 Whitney Ave.: "Strange Times: Downtown New Haven in the COVID Era," "Children of the Elm City" and "Factory" are on view. newhavenmuseum.org.

Hamden Senior Center in the Miller Memorial Library Complex, 2901 Dixwell Ave.: Hamden Art League's annual Goldenbells exhibit will be up until May 17. hamdenartleague.org.

Mattatuck Museum, 144 West Main St. in Waterbury: "An American Lens: A History of Photography in Waterbury" is up until Dec. 31. "The Village Project," work by Denise Minnerly and Don Bracken, is up until May 8. "Two for the Road: Ernest Roth and André Smith in Europe" is up to May 15. mattmuseum.org.

Kehler Liddell Gallery, 873 Whalley Ave. in New Haven: "Forest — Wander: Frank Bruckmann and Roy Money" is up to May 22. kehlerliddell-gallery.com.

Susan Powell Fine Art, 679 Boston Post Road in Madison: "David Dunlop: Journeys in Light" is up to June 11. susannowellfineart.com.

City Gallery, 994 State St. in New Haven: "In Mind and Hand: New Fiber Work by Jennifer Davies" is up from May 6 to 29. city-gallery.org.

Fairfield University Art Museum, 200 Barlow Road in Fairfield: "Adger Cowans: Sense and Sensibility" is in the Bellarmine Hall Galleries to June 18. "13 Ways of Looking at Landscape: Larry Silver's Connecticut Photographs" will be up until June 18. fairfield.edu/museum/

MoCA Westport, 19 Newtown Turnpike: "Punk is Coming," with work by Merrill Aldighieri, Amy Arbus, Emily Armstrong, William Badgley, Alex Bag, Jean-Michel Basquiat, Roberta Bayley, Janette Beckman, Celeste Bell, Richard Butler, Beth Collar, Jayne County, Jim Fields, Jill Furmanovsky, Danny Garcia, Richard Hambleton, Duncan Hannah, Tony Hope, Pat Ivers, David Johansen, Kevin Kerslake, Cindy Hudson Kral, Lynette Bean Kral, Ivan Kral, Helmut Lang, Jenny Lens, Linder, Judy Linn, John Lydon, Robert Mapplethorpe, Hans Neleman, Fabrika Ouch, Lisa Jane Persky, Thebe Photogoto, Amos Poe, Eileen Polk, Richard Prince, Dee Dee Ramone, Ruby Ray, Jamie Reid, Marcia Resnick, Ebet Roberts, Sheila Rock, Sue Rynski, Donna Santisi, Marian Schwindeman, Steven Sebring, Kate Simon, Penny Slinger, Patti Smith, Paul Sng, Julien Temple, Gail Thacker, Arturo Vega and Sally Webster, is up until June 5. mocawestport.org.

Greenwich Art Society, 299 Greenwich Ave.: 105th Annual Open Juried Exhibition, curated by Brinda Kumar, will be up to May 5. greenwichartsociety.org.

Silvermine Arts Center, 1037 Silvermine Road in New Canaan: Future Perfect/Imperfect: The Next Century," a members' exhibit focusing on the future, is

up from April 30 to June 9. Among the artists are Leslie Alexander and Helen Cantrell of Old Lyme, Sarah Balcombe and ReBel ReBel of Greenwich, Susan Bradley of Collinsville, Nancy Breakstone of Westport, Scott Bricher of South Kent, Christopher Brown of Watertown, Janine Brown of Fairfield, Phyllis Crowley of New Haven, Elysa DeMartini of Stamford, Laure Dunne of Norwalk, Donna Forma of Southport, Lois Goglia of Cheshire, Renee Hughes of Simsbury, Ning Jia of Woodbridge, Julie O'Connor of Weston and Torrance York of New Canaan. silvermineart.org.

Bruce Museum, One Museum Drive in Greenwich: "Permanent Science Galleries: Natural Cycles Shape Our Land" is up until the end of the year. brucemuseum.org.

The Gallery at Still River Editions, 128 East Liberty St. in Danbury: Scratching the Surface: David Haislip" is up until May 27. stillrivereditions.com.

Hollis Taggart Southport, 330 Pequot Ave.: "Francis Hines: Unwrapping the Mystery of New York's Wrapper" is up from May 5 to June 11. hollistaggart.com.

Fairfield University Art Museum, 200 Barlow Road in Fairfield: "Adger Cowans: Sense and Sensibility" is in the Bellarmine Hall Galleries to June 18. "13 Ways of Looking at Landscape: Larry Silver's Connecticut Photographs" will be up until June 18. fairfield.edu/museum/

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Susan Dunne can be reached at sdunne@courant.com.

Picks

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Twain and race intertwine

In what's likely to be a fascinating blend of classic fiction and contemporary social issues, Dr. Laura Skandera Trombley and Dr. Ann Ryan discuss "Mark Twain & Critical Race Theory" May 4 at 7 p.m., virtually at Mark Twain House. Trombley and Ryan are both scholars specializing in the life and works of Twain. Describing the event the Mark Twain House says, "Instead of invoking false dichotomies, what we hope to accomplish here — using Twain's writing as just one example — is to demonstrate how thoroughly American it is to wrestle with 'critical

race theory,' a phrase that Twain would have found as unwieldy as it is imprecise. Nonetheless, it is a concept that inspired his major works." Free. Registration required. marktwainhouse.org.

Punk rock with a purpose

The politically profound, peripatetic "gypsy punk" ensemble of immigrant musicians Gogol Bordello, led as ever by Eugene Hütz, return to New Haven, a city they've visited many times since forming in New York in 1999. Gogol Bordello's "Solidaritine Tour" hits town May 5 at 8 p.m

Stage

from Page 1

in November and December of 2021, "It's a Wonderful Life" was co-directed by Bensussen and Hartford Stage Artistic Associate Rachel Alderman (who also co-directed the theater's current production of Neil Simon's "Lost in Yonkers," with Marsh Mason.) This year, just Alderman will be directed. The production will change a bit, and will feature a different cast.

Hartford Stage is considering doing other holiday-themed theater events this year, possibly a repeat of the reading of Thornton Wilder's "The Long Christmas Dinner" by Hartt School students and possibly even a reading of "A Christmas Carol."

'Espejos: Clean' by Christine Quintana

Spanish translation and

*adaptation by Paula Zelaya Cervantes
Directed by Melissa Crespo, Jan. 12 through Feb. 5*

"This is the first time Hartford Stage has done a completely bilingual play," Bensussen says. That begins with its title, since the words "espejos" and "clean" do not mean the same thing.

In the play, one character speaks in Spanish while another speaks in English.

"Whichever language you speak, you'll be able to understand everything," says Bensussen, who has her own experience as a director and translator of Spanish-language plays.

She describes Quinlan's play as "the journey of two women in Mexico — one works there, and the other is planning her sister's wedding. It's about those Club Med-type places, where they're so beautiful that it's easy to forget about the locals who have to work there."

The production is a

co-production with Syracuse Stage, where "Espejos: Clean" director Melissa Crespo is the associate artistic director.

'The Art of Burning' by Kate Snodgrass

Directed by Melia Bensussen, March 2 to 26

This is a world premiere, about the custody battle over a 15-year-old child. "The Art of Burning" is a co-production between Hartford Stage and the Huntington Theatre Company in Boston, which will stage it first, in January and February. Both Bensussen and playwright Kate Snodgrass have long associations with the Huntington.

'The Winter's Tale' by William Shakespeare

Directed by Melia Bensussen, April 13 through May 7

It's back-to-back directing duties for Bensussen in 2022, first with the world premiere of "The Art of Burning" and then with this 400-year-old Shakespeare play, considered one of the Bard's so-called problem plays because it apparently doesn't know if it wants to be a comedy, a romance or a psychological thriller. For many, such an intriguing mixing of genres is not any kind of problem. The Yale Repertory Theatre in New Haven did a joyous production of "The Winter's Tale" in 2012 and a much bleaker one in 1986. Hartford Stage has not done it before, but Bensussen has, at Actors' Shakespeare Project in Boston in 2015.

"When I was hired here," Bensussen says, "it was partly because my strengths as a director were Shakespeare and new works." She adds that Shakespeare plays have been among the most popular shows at Hartford Stage: "Shakespeare sells

better than anything except musicals."

"The Winter's Tale" speaks to me about the last few years," Bensussen says.

Rider says she's seen three different productions of "The Winter's Tale" and "each time, it's a new play. You don't feel you've seen this before. As an audience member, it's so exciting to experience."

'Trouble in Mind' by Alice Childress

Directed by Christopher D. Betts, May 25 through June 18

Bensussen describes Childress' 1955 drama, about a Black actors rehearsing a play about racism by a white author, as "a perfect play for a theater like Hartford Stage. It's right up there with the Arthur Miller plays of this period." It will be directed by Christopher Betts, who directed the new production of Tarell Alvin

McCraney's "Choir Boy" at Yale Repertory Theatre this month and will be at Hartford Stage for the 2022-23 and 2023-24 seasons as the theater's inaugural Joyce C. Willis fellow.

"The Roberts Foundation [which funds the Willis grant] originally suggested that we get a playwright, but Cynthia and I felt that the person who really changes the culture in a theater is the director. We liked Christopher Betts' energy and his commitment. He'll be a part of the season programming while he's here. We did not specify that he direct a Black play, but we did discuss a number of them, and he was excited to do 'Trouble in Mind.'"

"Our commitment," Bensussen says of all the plays in the 2022-23 season, "is to the artists on our stage showing their best selves."

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.

Wedding

from Page 1

"Zoey's Perfect Wedding" is directed by TheaterWorks' Artistic Director Rob Ruggiero, who directed "Georgia McBride" four years ago.

Rachel B. Joyce, the New York-based actor who plays bride, says she's "very excited, after this time of isolation and self-taped auditions, to be doing a live play again," one where she gets to interact so energetically with the rest of the cast.

"I'm also just excited about doing an entire play in a wedding gown," she says, which was purchased from David's Bridal in Manchester.

"I went with Rob and the costume designer. I had to let the people there know that I wasn't really a bride, so they wouldn't do all the special things a bridal shop does, like ring the bell. It was fun to think of Zoey and what her dress would

be, and I had to remind myself that I wasn't getting the dress for myself. But that's all I'll say — it's bad luck to reveal the dress before the day!"

"The entire play takes place at a reception for this wedding," Joyce says. "It's high everything: high emotions, high stress... The bride is feeling a lot of emotions. The whole play runs on a motor that is go-go-go. It's not like all-out stage combat, but there's a lot of choreographic movement. We're really scrambling over each other."

"There are only six of us [actors] to represent the entire wedding."

One of the elements setting the fast pace: a DJ spinning everything from wedding-friendly standards to '80s pop hits.

"The play takes place in 2008," Joyce says, which means COVID and other recent world events aren't in the air. "It's just enough of a period piece. There's talk about Obama."

One actor in the company came to "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" from a different path than agents, managers and New York auditions. Halley Eliza Friedman plays Zoey's cousin Missy, who's pressed into service as a wedding planner. Friedman's a student at the Hartt School, whose previous off-campus shows in the area include a reading of Thornton Wilder's "The Long Christmas Dinner" at Hartford Stage and playing Rapunzel in "Into the Woods" for Playhouse on Park's Connecticut Shakespeare Festival last summer.

"My relationship with TheaterWorks started with 'The River,'" she says, citing the Jez Butterworth drama that Ruggiero directed in the fall of 2018. "I saw it for school and I absolutely loved it. I wrote an essay for class on the 20-minute completely silent scene where you just see this man gutting a fish. Then in my sophomore year, I interned

Hartt student Hallie Eliza Friedman, shown here in a rehearsal, plays Missy in "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" at TheaterWorks Hartford. MIKE MARQUES

there when they were doing 'American Son.'

Friedman now finds herself onstage in a TheaterWorks show.

"There's such great energy in the room," she says. "For many of us, this is the first production we've done since the pandemic."

The rest of the "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" cast includes Hunter Ryan Herdlicka, Blair Lewin and Daniel José as friends of the bride, and Esteban Carmona as the wedding DJ. That's right, the groom (whose name is Patrick) is not a big character in the play.

And what does Friedman's character Missy wear to the wedding?

"I wear a beautiful floral pink dress. My favorite thing about it is that I have to wear a fanny pack, and I love wearing fanny packs. My fanny pack and my clipboard will be color coordinated to match the dress."

"Zoey's Perfect Wedding" runs April 30 through June 5 at TheaterWorks Hartford, 233 Pearl St., Hartford. Performances are Tuesdays through Thursdays at 7:30 p.m., Fridays at 8 p.m., Saturdays at 2:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. and Sundays at 2:30 p.m. \$65. twhartford.org.

Christopher Arnott can be reached at carnott@courant.com.



Hartt student Hallie Eliza Friedman, shown here in a rehearsal, plays Missy in "Zoey's Perfect Wedding" at TheaterWorks Hartford. MIKE MARQUES

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MILTON AVERY

Milton Avery, *Husband and Wife* (detail), 1945. Oil on canvas. Gift of Mr. and Mrs. Roy R. Neuberger.

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A street artist entertains children with bubbles April 7, after the war started, in Lviv, Ukraine. MAURICIO LIMA/THE NEW YORK TIMES PHOTOS

No more ‘Have a nice day’

Lviv, Ukraine, used to be a popular tourist destination; now war is here

By Jane Arraf
The New York Times

LVIV, Ukraine — When war came to Ukraine in February, Helen Polishchuk made some adjustments in the six-story bar she manages in central Lviv.

The Mad Bars House in Lviv's historic central square stayed open, but served coffee and hot food instead of alcoholic drinks. They turned off the rock music. And as displaced Ukrainians began pouring into the city from places devastated by Russian attacks hundreds of miles away, she had instructions for the wait staff.

"When guests leave the restaurant we normally say, 'Have a nice day,'" she said. Instead she told them they could say something else, like "Glory to Ukraine," or "We wish you blue skies."

"Because to say 'Have a nice day' in this period is stupid," said Polishchuk, 33.

Before the Russian invasion of Ukraine at the end of February, Lviv, a historic city just 40 miles from Poland, was a popular European tourist destination, with 2.5 million visitors a year and the biggest jazz festival in Eastern Europe.

Now, instead of tourists, there are displaced Ukrainians fleeing the war-torn east of the country. Lviv and its residents are learning to live with what most now believe will be many months of conflict, if not years.

Several Russian airstrikes have targeted infrastructure here, includ-

ing a rocket attack on a military training base in March that killed more than 30 people. Air raid sirens warning of Russian fighter jets breaching the airspace sound several times a day.

This small city, though, is still far from the active fighting that has devastated entire cities in the east of Ukraine.

The main challenge for Lviv has been to survive a wartime economy and manage the flood of displaced, traumatized people who are swelling the city's population.

"We have learned to live in wartime," said the city's mayor, Andriy Sadovyi, who has recently lifted some municipal restrictions, including allowing bars and restaurants to sell wine and beer, although not hard alcohol.

Sadovyi, a former busi-

nessman, said that six months before the Russian invasion, he tasked city officials with finding a way to keep water supplies flowing if the electricity failed. They started buying diesel generators, as well as stockpiling medical supplies, and topping up blood banks.

"If I had not been brac-

ing my city for this situation, we would be in a catastrophe right now," Sadovyi, dressed in a black hoodie and black sneakers, said in an interview in the 19th-century Viennese-style City Hall. His office's expansive stone balcony overlooked the market square, where displaced children shrieked with laughter and chased giant soap bubbles blown



A cafe April 9 in the old city of Lviv, Ukraine.

by a street performer.

Sadovyi said that civilians fleeing the fighting started coming into Lviv within hours of the invasion — 60,000 of them per day for the first three weeks. Now, with a new Russian advance expected, about 10,000 a day are arriving.

While many are heading across the border to Poland and other European countries, about 200,000 have remained, double the number the city administration was expecting and almost one-third of the city's prewar population of 700,000.

Those with money are renting apartments or staying in hotels. But tens of thousands more are in

shelters, dependent on aid. The Polish government has donated container homes for 1,000 people that are being set up in a city park. Others are being channeled from Lviv to other communities in western Ukraine.

"This is a huge strain on our city," said Sadovyi, 53. "Basically we have another city within our city."

The war has sparked remarkable patriotism, and if some residents note that they can no longer find tables at their favorite cafés or restaurants because they are filled with displaced people, they tend not to complain. Guides lead displaced families on free tours of the city. Passengers on the tourist trolley leaving City Hall are not

foreigners these days but Ukrainians.

At the Mad Bars House, Polishchuk said they planned to open a rooftop terrace, perhaps with nonalcoholic cocktails as well as wine and beer. They are bringing back more of their original 111-person staff.

She said the bar, which in normal times has a dance floor and serves increasingly potent drinks as patrons ascend its six stories, is losing money, but is committed to remaining open. On a recent Sunday afternoon, the first and second floors of the bar were full.

Management has replaced the classic rock entertainment with beer drink-

ers at the ground-floor bar before the war with Ukrainian songs, though on the floor serving wine to customers at tables, Frank Sinatra croons.

"We don't want to pretend that nothing has happened, we understand that it's a war," Polishchuk said. "But we want to create an atmosphere of somewhere safe."

On the menu, borscht, the beet soup that had few takers before the war is now the biggest seller. Polishchuk said it was patriotism and stress. "We understand that people want comfort foods," she said.

"This is not the time for carrot juice and green salads," Polishchuk said.

Tune in to your senses on your next family trip

By Lynn O'Rourke Hayes
FamilyTravel.com

Travel enables us to sample from a sensory feast. On your next trip, encourage family members to tune in to their senses. Here are ways to deepen the experience and expand awareness:

What do you smell? Campfires, coffee brewing, freshly cut grass, a pine forest and fragrant rose gardens all offer an

opportunity to sniff something special. Talk with the kids about which aromas make them want to linger and which they are eager to pass by. Do certain scents evoke a memory from a previous experience? Notice how different members of your family respond.

How does it feel? Particularly during these unusual times, leaving the comfort of home may evoke a range of emotions, spanning from

excitement and anticipation to anxiety and uncertainty.

When the time comes to venture farther from our own front steps and perhaps into an unfamiliar landscape, each member of your family is bound to feel something new.

How might your crew react to the humidity of a coastal town or the dry air of the Sonoran Desert? Who feels tired? Or hungry? Or even homesick? Talk about it.

Can I taste it? With more time at home, many families have used the era to encourage kids to expand their culinary range. It's a good time to talk about the origins of different ingredients and why many are unique to specific regions of the world. Seek out the websites of cities, countries or resorts you might like to visit. Many offer recipes that will enable you to explore the food and drink of destinations around the world.



As you travel, pay attention to the smells, sounds and flavors of the trip. DREAMSTIME

Estonia's fight for freedom with songs



Rick Steves

It's amazing what a stretch of water can do. The Baltic Sea separates Estonia from Sweden and Finland. The struggles of the last couple of generations couldn't be more different on these opposite shores. When I visited the Baltic states back in the 1980s, labor was cheaper than light bulbs. While I was touring museums, an old babushka would actually walk through the museum with me, turning the lights on and off as we went from room to room.

Those days are long gone. Estonia's busy capital, Tallinn, is like a petri dish of capitalism. Since winning its freedom in 1991, the country has blossomed. My guide, Mati, brags that Estonia has the strongest economy, most freedom, and highest standard of living of any republic that was part of the USSR. He says that by some measures, Estonians are now one of the freest people on Earth.

Mati points out the great irony of Russia's communist experiment. Russia, once the supposed champion of radical equality — as far as Leninism and Marxism were concerned — is now infamous for having the worst inequality. In the dirty derby of unequal wealth distribution, Russia is one of only a few countries to actually beat the U.S. Estonians are better off today than Russians not because they have more money per capita (they don't), but because the wealth in this country is distributed much more evenly. Mati, who's spent half his life under communism and half under capitalism, says, "Politics. It's



The Song Festival Grounds, where Estonians sang for their independence. **RICK STEVES**

all about the distribution of wealth."

Mati drives us back into Tallinn to explore the Old Town. Strolling the street in need of a coffee break, we step into a courtyard. At the entry the landlord has hung a photo of the place back in 2000. It looked like a war had hit it. Today, while it looks much the same, it's inhabited by thriving businesses.

In Mati's youth, the entire USSR — one-sixth of the world — was theoretically open to him, but he had no way to get a plane ticket or a hotel room, so in practice travel was not possible. The other five-sixths of the world was simply off-limits. In the

1950s and 1960s, the USSR ordered all Estonian recreational boats destroyed because they were considered potential "escape vehicles." It was an era in which Estonia was virtually a prison.

In the early 1990s, after the fall of the USSR, a kind of Wild West capitalism swept the country. The country's first millionaire was a clever entrepreneur who dismantled the physical trappings of Soviet control and sold it as scrap metal. Mati and five friends made good money by importing classic American cars and selling them to rich Russians. But one day, four of Mati's friends went to Russia to

collect payment on a car and were killed — riddled with machine-gun bullets. Mati decided to drop his car business and become a tour guide.

Mati says, "The Russian mob makes Sicily's mob look like a church choir. Putin directed the KGB back then. If you think Putin doesn't understand how to hold on to power, forgive me, but you are a fool or you are blind."

Mati and I visit Tallinn's huge Song Festival Grounds, which looks like an oversized Hollywood Bowl. Overlooking the grassy expanse, with the huge stage tiny in the distance, Mati explains that in 1988, when Estonia was

breaking away from the USSR, over 300,000 people — a third of the country — gathered here to sing patriotic songs.

Mati says, "Stuck between Russia and Germany, we were almost invisible. Our national songfest was a political statement. We are so few in number that we must emphasize that we exist. We had no weapons. All we could do was be together and sing. This was our power."

Their Singing Revolution, peaceful and nonviolent, persisted for several years, and in the end, Estonians gained their freedom in 1991.

The Song Festival

Grounds, still used for concerts today, is a national monument for the compelling role it played in this small country's fight for independence.

Traveling with Mati through Estonia, I'm reminded that I simply inherited freedom. For many, freedom has to be earned.

*Rick Steves (www.ricksteves.com) writes European guidebooks, hosts travel shows on public TV and radio, and organizes European tours. This article was adapted from his new book, *For the Love of Europe*. You can email Rick at rick@ricksteves.com and follow his blog on Facebook.*

CELEBRITY TRAVEL

Brooks dreams of Disney vacation

By Jae-Ha Kim
Tribune Content Agency



Actor Aria Brooks said she is looking forward to rescheduling trips that were canceled due to COVID-19. **TEVIN JOHNSON**

do that this year. My little sister's birthday is around that time too, so we'll definitely do something fun to celebrate her. It is difficult to plan that far in advance because my schedule is constantly changing.

Q: If you had to cancel travel plans with your family due to the pandemic, where were they to?

A: In 2020, one of my goals for the year was to plan a vacation for my family. I wanted to take my family on a Disney Cruise because I've wanted to go on one since I was 9 years old. I wanted to take them on a cruise to the Caribbean, but the pandemic hit and messed up those plans. I'd still like to go some day.

Q: What was the first trip you took that you remember? And did you love it ... or not so much?

A: The first trip I have memory of was when my family went to Florida for my sister's birthday. We went to Disney World and the Crayola Experience in Orlando. I absolutely loved it and cannot wait to go back. Disney World is one of my favorite places to go because it has something for everyone, and it is an amazing overall experience. That was my first time at the Crayola Experience, and it was really fun.

Q: What are your five favorite cities?

A: Orlando, New York City, Hollywood, Malibu and Atlanta. Orlando is so fun

to me because of Disney World. New York City and Hollywood are busy and historical cities, that I love to visit. I find something new every time I go. I've only been to Malibu once, but I loved the weather, the beach and the views. Lastly, Atlanta will always be home for me, no matter how much I travel.

Q: Where would you like to go that you have never been to before?

A: Paris someday. There are so many sights and experiences that interest me. My main reason for wanting to go to Paris is for the food. I really want to try French cuisine and desserts straight from France.

Q: What would be your dream trip?

A: (It's) still a Disney Cruise. I've been wanting to go on one for six years. I've had my eye on the seven-night Western Caribbean Cruises. It would go to Mexico, Grand Cayman, Jamaica and Castaway Cay (Disney's island in the Bahamas).

Q: What is your guilty pleasure on the road?

A: Nutella. I love Nutella so much. I could put it on everything and enjoy it. I eat it on fruit, pretzels, toast, waffles and even by the spoonful. I could eat an entire jar if someone didn't stop me.

For more from the reporter, visit www.jahakim.com.

TRAVEL TROUBLESHOOTER

Aegean Airlines refunds 1 ticket but not the other

By Christopher Elliott
King Features Syndicate

Q: I bought two tickets from Aegean Airlines just before the COVID-19 shutdown. The airline offered vouchers for credit, redeemable for cash after a year.

A: After the year ended, I received a refund for one of the tickets. But Aegean shows the other as "already redeemed," even though it hasn't been. To add confusion, the refund for the one ticket does not indicate which one was refunded.

— Benn Karne, Oakland, California

A: You should have received that second ticket refund by now.

Aegean Airlines' refund policy, while not perfect, is better than most. Many European airlines canceled their flights and forced customers to accept a voucher that expired after a year. If they couldn't use the flight credit within a year, the airline got to keep the money.

Your credit worked the other way. If you couldn't use the voucher, you received a full refund. (What's the ideal resolution, you ask? A full refund after the cancellation. But we don't live in an ideal world.)

I'm not surprised that refund cases like yours are dragging on for years, literally. Airlines and other travel companies would rather forget the beginning of the outbreak, and they

are more focused on the future than on a few painful months in 2020 when it looked like the sky was falling. But you can't let them forget.

I publish the names, numbers and email addresses of the customer service managers at Aegean Airlines on my consumer advocacy site at www.elliott.org/company-contacts/aegean-airlines.

But a review of your case suggests those names were only enough to get you the first refund.

In fact, you sent numerous emails and a polite letter to the CEO using our online contacts. Then the airline refunded your first ticket. But Aegean's site showed it had refunded both tickets.

So what was the problem?

I contacted the airline

on your behalf. A representative said the airline had tried to send the second refund to your bank, but it seems the transfer failed. That can happen when the account number is incorrect. But you had supplied the right bank account number. I think it's possible someone on the other end didn't type your bank account information in correctly on the second ticket.

You re-sent the account number. This time, the refund went through.

Christopher Elliott is the chief advocacy officer of Elliott Advocacy, a non-profit organization that helps consumers resolve their problems. Elliott's latest book is "How To Be The World's Smartest Traveler" (National Geographic). Contact him at elliott.org/ help or chris@elliott.org.

CELEBRITIES**Grier covers 'everything' in podcast****By Lindsey Bahr**

Associated Press

Pam Grier doesn't look back that often. If she did, she said recently from New Mexico, "I'd be drinking."

But when Turner Classic Movies host Ben Mankiewicz called to ask if she would consider being the focus of the new season of his podcast "The Plot Thickens," she knew she had to do it. She had listened to and loved the previous season that explored the career of Peter Bogdanovich and had an idea of what it would entail. But the main reason she wanted to do it? Her death. Really.

"You never know when you're going to kick the bucket," Grier said.

At 72, Grier is not ready to call it quits quite yet. She's in the new "Pet Sematary" prequel as well as a thriller with Damon Wayans and is hard at work getting an adaptation of her 2010 memoir, "Foxy: My Life in Three Acts" off the ground. She said it's likely to now be a miniseries as opposed to a film, and she already has some exciting people ready to direct episodes.

But she is interested in thinking about her career with the wisdom and perspective she has picked up along the way.

After all, it has been 49 years since she became a star and a trailblazer with "Coffy," Jack Hill's 1973 blaxploitation classic about a nurse out to get revenge against the men who turned her niece into a drug addict. Full of violence, nudity and action, the low-budget pic became a hit and even managed to unseat James Bond from the top spot at the box office.

She remembers getting a call from a theater chain owner at the time saying that, "People are going to be mad at you, Pammy. Your movies make a lot of



Pam Grier, seen April 21, is the focus of the second season of the podcast "The Plot Thickens." **FRAZER HARRISON/GETTY**

money. They stay in the theaters too long, they can't get them out."

The theater owner told her that the theaters were full of college students, military types, white people, Black people, fathers, sons, mothers and daughters, and that people were coming back multiple times.

"The word 'iconic' is overused in this industry, but Pam has been a true revolutionary regarding the depiction of Black women in Hollywood," Mankiewicz said. "Pam's characters are unapologetic, tough and fiercely independent, just like she was when she started in Hollywood five decades ago and remains to this day."

To prepare for their talks, Grier rewatched some of her early films, and while she can look back fondly on what she accomplished, she's also baffled by one aspect: "The fact

that I did all those stunts, running and jumping without a sport bra," she said.

Grier had her ups and downs in an industry that despite the early, unambiguous success, didn't seem to know what to do with her.

The podcast, which debuts this fall, promises to cover it all from "Foxy Brown" to her big comeback in "Jackie Brown" and beyond.

"It's going to be off the hook," Grier said. "I covered everything. Everything."

May 1 birthdays: Singer Judy Collins is 83. Singer Rita Coolidge is 77. Actor Danny Florek is 72. Musician Ray Parker Jr. is 68. Actor Byron Stewart is 66. Singer Tim McGraw is 55. Director Wes Anderson is 53. Singer Tina Campbell is 48. Actor Darius McCrary is 46. Actor Jamie Dornan is 40. Actor Kerry Bishe is 38.

HOROSCOPES

Tarot.com

Aries (March 21-April 19):

Exploring the different sides of yourself could be useful today. You might be surprised to learn what's still influencing your decisions, especially advice from authority figures. Dialogue with your memories can help you take everything into account.

Taurus (April 20-May 20):

Your friends could have an idea for an exciting activity today — but you might not have planned for it in your budget. The only way out of this dilemma may be an honest assessment of your own priorities. Having a clear sense of what you want most can help you commit to getting it.

Gemini (May 21-June 20):

Trying to resolve a complicated financial matter could intimidate you now. You're likely to be rewarded if you reach out for help. There are actual humans involved in even the scarier bureaucratic systems out there, and asking them your questions can relieve your fears.

Cancer (June 21-July 22):

Learning something new could refresh a friendship that's gotten stuck in a rut. The risk to your connection would be letting boredom quietly kill it off. You may discover a difference between the two of you, but the ways you're separate from each other can help you build intimacy.

TODAY IN HISTORY

Associated Press

On May 1, 1707, the Kingdom of Great Britain was created.

In 1963, James W. Whitaker became the first American to conquer Mount Everest as he and

Leo (July 23-Aug. 22): Your attention to your responsibilities may be rewarded now, perhaps with a need to shift the boundaries in a professional relationship. There's a delicate balance when it comes to bringing personal matters to work — especially if restrictions get relaxed. Follow the other person's lead as you adjust to your new hours.

Virgo (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):

A common interest can be a great way for you to build a relationship. You need to avoid picking on the other person for approaching details of your shared passion differently than you do. If you stop focusing on how they're doing it wrong, you could learn something from them!

Libra (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):

Cleaning up around the house could make things look better, but you might feel resentful if other people aren't pulling their weight. While standing up for yourself may not be fun, it has the potential to solve your problem. Let go of the idea that some things should go without saying!

Scorpio (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):

Anxiety about connecting with others could drag you down. Instead of pushing for the conversation you think is necessary, go with the flow. You could wind up saying something profound. The genuine quality of this moment is likely to make an impression on who you reach.

Sagittarius (Nov. 22-Dec. 21): Paying attention to details is highlighted today. You may not realize how far some developments in your life have progressed. You're closer than you think to having the resources to make movements toward your goals.

Focus on making as big of a step as you can, and let the little stuff fall into place.

Capricorn (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):

You can put a positive spin on what you say today! Though you have some disrupting news, others won't see it that way if you don't present it as a cause for concern. Take advantage of this to unload something. Curate your narrative in a way that's both flattering and fair.

Aquarius (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):

Your financial history can affect your current situation. Make a focused effort to learn from budgeting successes. Your ups and downs aren't random, so knowing where the ups come from might help you get more. Being honest about weak points can help you overcome them.

Pisces (Feb. 19-March 20):

You feel beloved by your friends, but think about the hidden costs of that positive regard. What you feel like you can't say to them can give you an important perspective. The next step is discerning whether the problem concerns your own inhibitions or actual pushback from others.

Sherpa guide Nawang Gombu reached the summit.

In 1964, the computer programming language BASIC was created by Dartmouth College professors John G. Kemeny and Thomas E. Kurtz.

In 1971, the intercity passenger rail service Amtrak went into operation.

In 2009, Supreme Court Justice David Souter announced his retirement effective at the end of the court's term in late June.

(President Barack Obama chose federal judge Sonia Sotomayor to succeed him.)

In 2011, President Barack Obama announced the death of Osama bin Laden during a U.S. commando operation.

**ASK AMY****By Amy Dickinson**

askamy@amydickinson.com Twitter@askingamy

Writer shares work, reader won't comment**Dear Amy:** I am a self-supporting working woman.

Over the past decades, I've written personal essays for various publications. I don't make money at this; I wish I could!

I have a portfolio full of my work. Some pieces are humorous; some are serious.

I moved to a new town three years ago and made a new friend. She was going on a long car ride, so I offered to give her a few of my essays to read while she was away.

She has not said a word about any of the essays. I'm surprised because two of the pieces mention how my son battled cancer as a teenager. I had never discussed this personal topic with my friend. I thought this was a good way to enlighten her. (My son is now cancer-free.)

I finally asked her if she read any of my work. She said she did. She had no comments. Nothing positive; nothing negative.

I find this very odd and a bit insulting. I am not a terrible writer. If the pieces were poorly written, they wouldn't have been published in the first place.

Is my friend upset that I never broached the subject of my son's illness before? I believe she's the type of person who would let me know that the omission upset her.

She didn't comment on the humorous pieces, either. Wouldn't a friend say something?

Any ideas?

— At a Loss in Colorado

Dear At a Loss: A negative response from a friend could be deflating, but no response is much worse, because the writer in you

fills the void with questions and doubt.

Yes, I do think it's possible that your friend was shocked by some of the personal revelations you wrote about but had never disclosed to her. But some people simply do not realize that the kindest response from a friend is to offer encouragement, a question or a compliment.

It is possible that your friend simply didn't like your work and doesn't know how to deliver a vague and friendly acknowledgment that might satisfy you.

Because this worries you, you could say to her, "I'm a little thrown off that you haven't had anything to say about my work. Are you open to having a conversation about it?" If she demurs, accept it.

You should republish your work on a website, so in the future anyone who is interested in your writing can easily find and read it on their own, without you pressing it upon them.

Dear Amy: I had only been living with my boyfriend for two months when his mother's living situation (in another state) took a turn for the worst. He wanted to have her move in with us. I was truly naive and discounted all the negative stuff his siblings warned me about. They said that she would try to destroy our relationship.

Well, she moved in and slowly began a campaign. She made snide comments and criticized me constantly. Her son would confront her and take up for me, so she ramped up the attacks every time he wasn't physically present. She and I had a few

brutal arguments, and he confronted her and made her apologize, but I knew she didn't mean a word of it.

I told him that while I accepted her apology, she and I couldn't live under the same roof. We took her back to her home state.

After we dropped her off and drove back home, he informed me that he'd had second thoughts and was moving his mom back in with us and understood that meant that I would leave.

He says it's temporary. He minimizes her abusive behavior and even blames me for being combative.

Should I leave the relationship?

— *Am I Moving?*

Dear Am I Moving?: Yes, you are moving. You are moving because your boyfriend has accepted your non-negotiable and has demonstrated to you that he prefers to live with his mother.

Dear Amy: "Surviving Sister" described a harrowing situation where a "wellness check" on their brother resulted in armed police taking the man away in handcuffs.

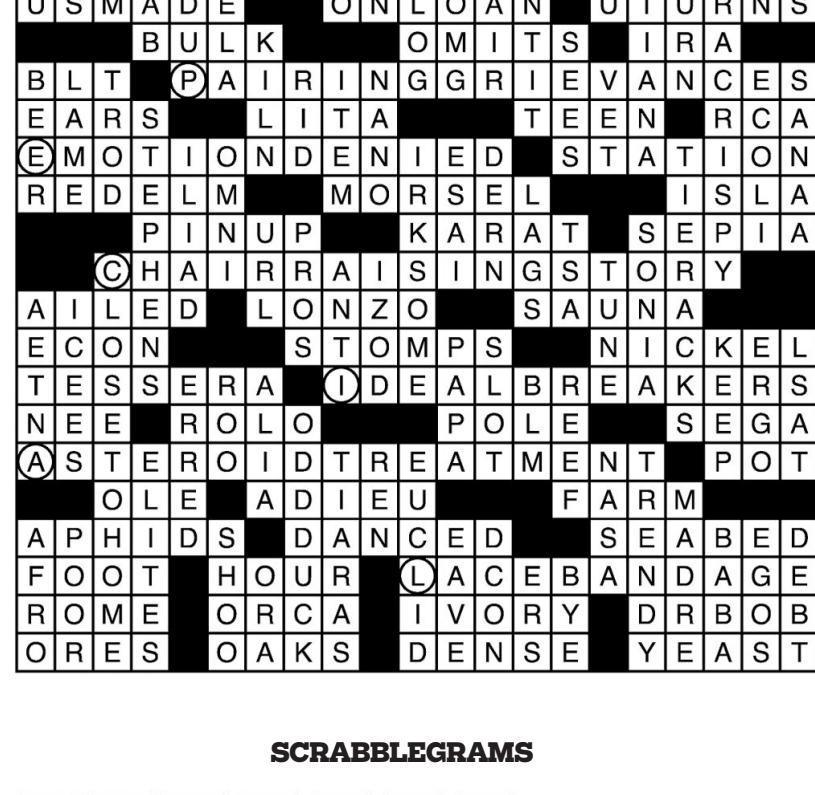
People seem to wonder why family estrangements happen. In my opinion, it often comes down to the refusal to acknowledge and apologize for unintended consequences.

— *Been There*

Dear Been There: I completely agree.

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LAST WEEK'S PUZZLE SOLUTIONS**SCRABBLEGRAMS**

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|
| I ₁ | N ₁ | V ₄ | O ₁ | I ₁ | C ₃ | E ₁ |
| J ₈ | E ₁ | T ₁ | P ₃ | O ₁ | R ₁ | T ₁ |
| O ₁ | N ₁ | W ₄ | A ₁ | R ₁ | D ₂ | S ₁ |
| S ₁ | I ₁ | B ₃ | L ₁ | I ₁ | N ₁ | G ₂ |
| U ₁ | N ₁ | E ₁ | N ₁ | D ₂ | E ₁ | D ₂ |

RACK 1 = **63**

RACK 2 = **66**

RACK 3 = **61**

RACK 4 = **80**

RACK 5 = **59**

TOTAL **329**

PAR SCORE 260-270

SUDOKU

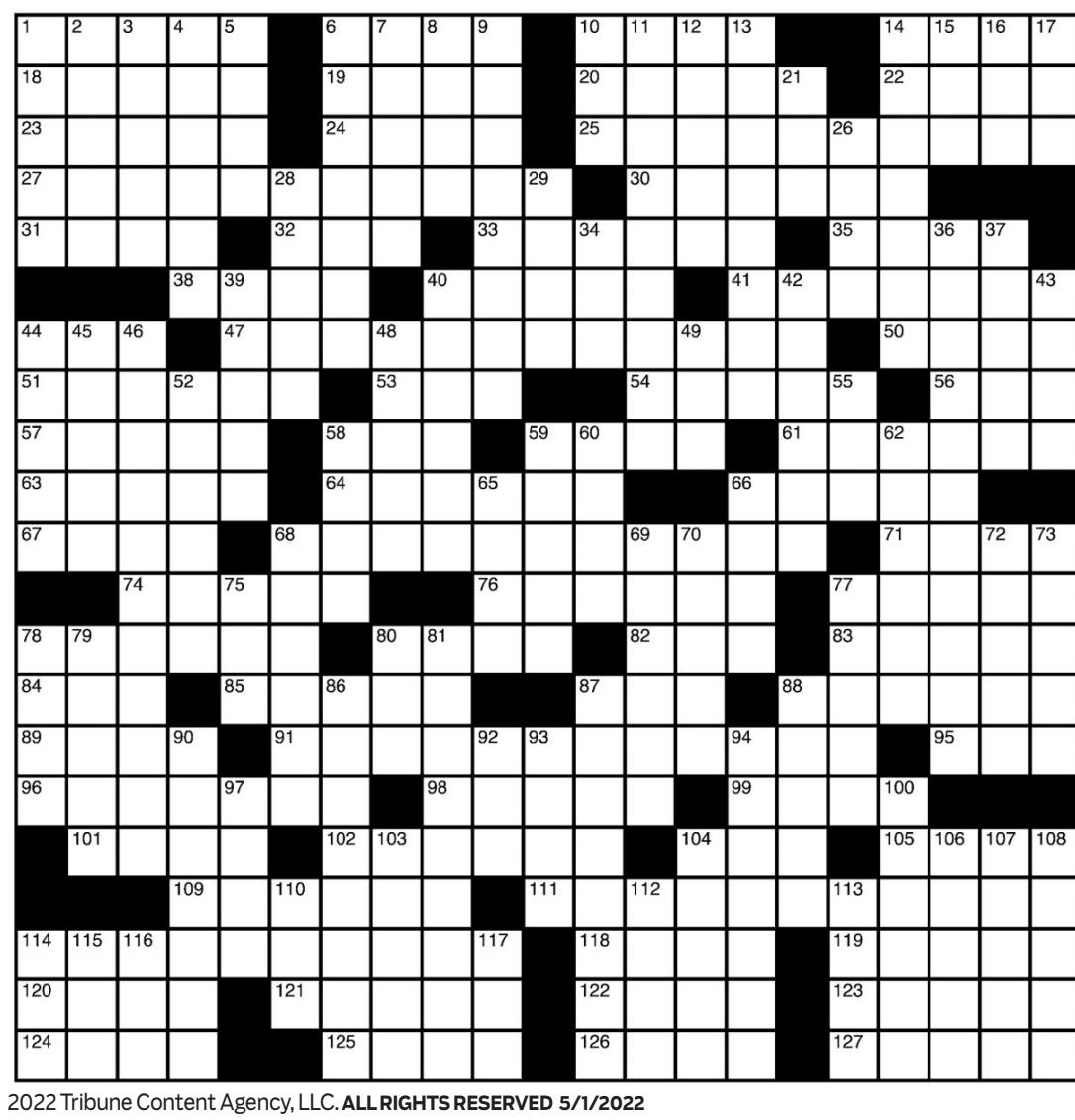
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|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 3 | 6 | 4 | 7 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 9 | 5 |
| 7 | 1 | 9 | 2 | 5 | 6 | 3 | 8 | 4 |
| 5 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 3 | 9 | 6 | 1 | 7 |
| 9 | 4 | 7 | 3 | 6 | 8 | 5 | 2 | 1 |
| 1 | 5 | 6 | 9 | 4 | 2 | 7 | 3 | 8 |
| 8 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 1 | 7 | 4 | 6 | 9 |

ARTS & LIVING**Work Clothes**

By Patti Varol

Across

1. Kills time in an airport terminal, say
6. "Be there in __"
10. Deposed Iranian ruler
14. __ Scotia
18. "Who's there?"
19. Cuarón film nominated for 10
Oscars
20. As yet
22. "Young Sheldon" star Armitage
23. No-frills type
24. Debit slip
25. What the housekeeper wore to
work?
27. What the actor wore to work?
30. Look that way
31. Genesis locale
32. Body image, briefly
33. Pass on, in a way
35. Runs
38. Wraparound dress
40. Hyland of "Modern Family"
41. Bumbling one
44. "Abbott Elementary" TV network
47. What the messenger wore to
work?
50. Country name on some euro coins
51. Jam
53. Hotmail alternative
54. Writer Zora __ Hurston
56. Schlep
57. Romance
58. Backing
59. Mennen product
61. Outlying communities
63. Indian royalty
64. Available if needed
66. Back in
67. Routing abbr.
68. What the truffle hunter wore to
work?
71. Big do
74. "Shaun of the Dead" director
Wright
76. Ple choice
77. Relinquishes
78. Quite steamy
80. Hazmat monitor
82. Color nuance
83. Naysayers
84. E-file org.
85. Tree surgeon's transplant
87. Orch. work
88. Tempt
89. Art Spiegelman graphic novel



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91. What the NASA scientist wore to
work?
95. Pack it in
96. Snobbery
98. Brink
99. Michelle of "Crazy Rich Asians"
101. A/C units
102. Jagged
104. Tuning pin on a cello
105. Rae who has won five Black Reel
Awards
109. Football Hall of Famer Jones
111. What the scholar wore to work?
114. What the groundskeeper wore to
work?
118. Cleveland's lake

119. Rarely ordered meat?
120. Diaper cream ingredient
121. Church law
122. Deep-dish chain, familiarly
123. Shampoo brand with an
Essentials line
124. Touch down
125. Dispatch
126. Fortified wine from the Douro
Valley
127. Expressed disdain

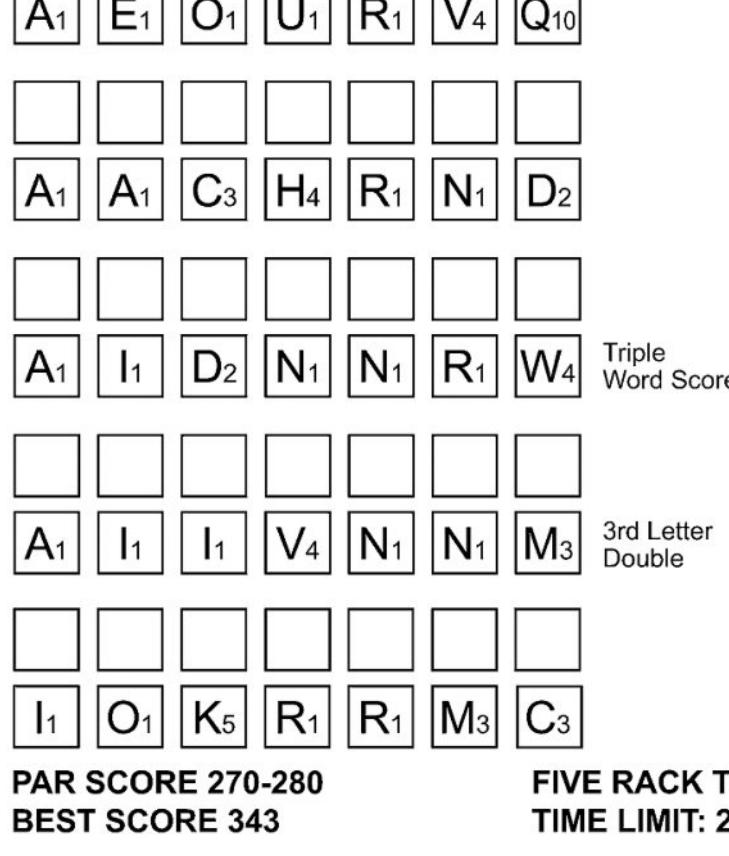
Down

1. Embarrassment
2. Early Judean king
3. __ Kitteridge": Pulitzer winner by

- Elizabeth Strout
4. Grasslands
5. Lone
6. Really, really old-school
7. "You're not looking __ yourself!"
8. Mideast title
9. Kim who narrates "How I Met Your
Father"
10. Avg.
11. Work with a real estate agent, say
12. Photographer Adams
13. Posh spot for a weekend getaway
14. Classic salade
15. State tree of Iowa
16. Try (for)
17. Tiny tunneler
21. Lou Grant's TV station
26. Somewhat
28. Narrow piece
29. Sun-cracked
34. Choose, in Duck, Duck, Goose
36. What the conductor wore to
work?
37. Clean vigorously
39. Borders on
40. "Shift over a bit, will ya"
42. Out
43. Brewery array
44. Ghana's capital
45. Swell up
46. What the soda jerk wore to work?
48. Rambling accounts
49. __ culpa
52. Gay dating app
55. Interoffice no.
58. Rain hard
59. Hi or bye on Lanai
60. Arctic chunk
62. Top-priority
65. Many a rock formation in Bryce
Canyon
66. Susan or Collin of country music
68. Multicolored fabric
69. Literary alter ego
70. Roomba target
72. German camera
73. Plus
75. Play date?
77. Poem section
78. "Pencils down"
79. G-U-M rival
80. Frequently found in a sonnet?
81. Scottish writer who created
69-Down
86. To an equal degree
87. "Sounds awesome!"
88. Melancholy poem
90. Star-
92. Crank (up)
93. Smelter input
94. Chart-reading exam
97. "Ohhhh"
100. Short break
103. "... said __ ever"
104. Earlier
106. Weasel
107. Ward (off)
108. Did something appealing?
110. Mandela's org.
112. River of Pisa
113. "Hey, c'mere!"
114. "Wonder Woman" star Gadot
115. __ carte
116. Mets color commentator Darling
117. Conclusion

SCRABBLEGRAMS

Directions: Make a 2- to 7-letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word, using scoring directions right. Finally, 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All words are in the Official SCRABBLE Players Dictionary, 4th Edition.



PAR SCORE 270-280
BEST SCORE 343

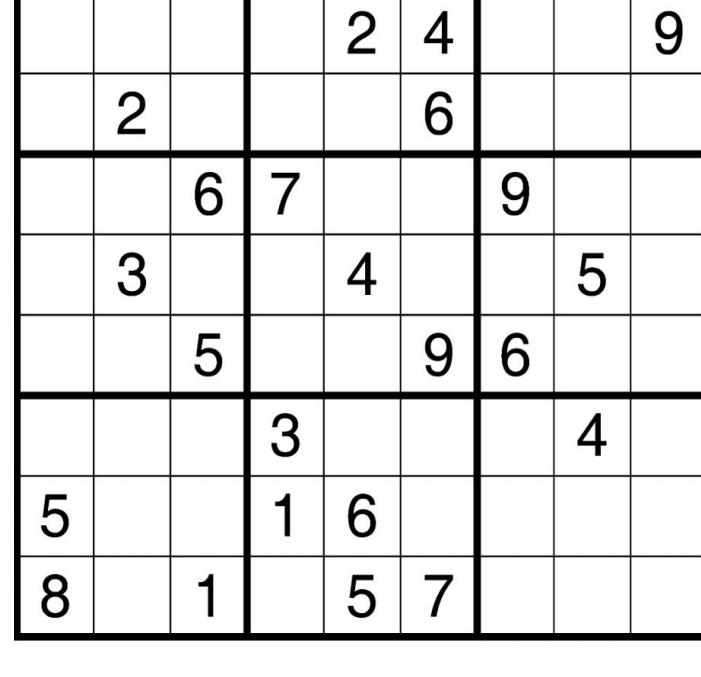
FIVE RACK TOTAL
TIME LIMIT: 25 MIN

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SUDOKU

By The Mepham Group

To play: Complete the grid so each row, column and 3-by-3 box (in bold borders) contains every digit 1 to 9. For strategies on how to solve Sudoku, visit www.sudoku.org.uk.



Unscramble these Jumbles,
one letter to each square,
to form six ordinary words.

LGGGEA

RACK 1

TATETS

RACK 2

BGOLNO

RACK 3

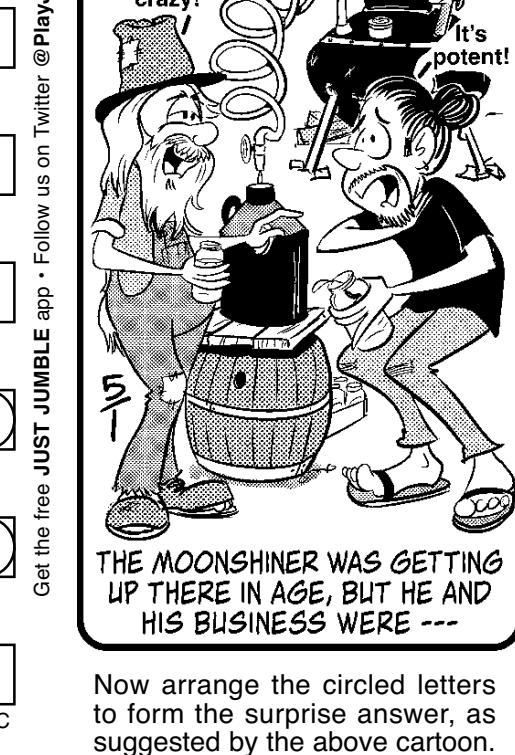
LNAGOL

RACK 4

LIRASO

RACK 5

ULFETI



Now arrange the circled letters
to form the surprise answer, as
suggested by the above cartoon.

PRINT YOUR ANSWER IN THE CIRCLES BELOW

**BOGGLE BRAIN BUSTERS!**

By David L. Hoyt & Jeff Knurek

BOGGLE® POINT SCALE

3 letters = 1 point

4 letters = 2 points

5 letters = 3 points

6 letters = 4 points

7 letters = 6 points

8 letters = 10 points

9+ letters = 15 points

YOUR BOGGLE® RATING

151+ = Champ

101-150 = Expert

61-100 = Pro

31-60 = Gamer

21-30 = Rookie

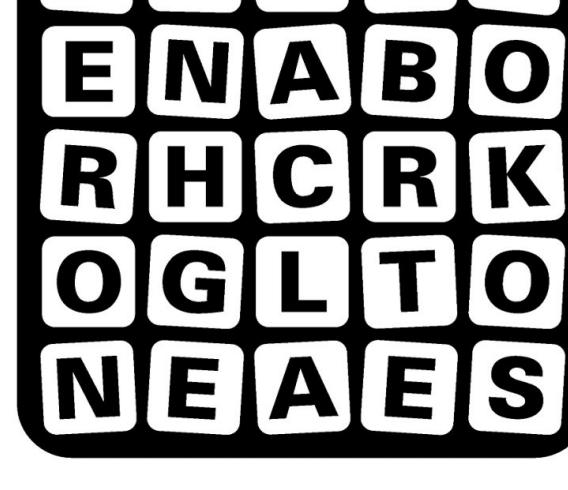
11-20 = Amateur

0-10 = Try again

Boggle® BrainBusters Bonus

We put special brain-busting words into the puzzle grid. Can you find them?

Find AT LEAST EIGHT FIVE-LETTER BIRDS in the grid of letters.



MY PET WORLD

Dog from hoarding home needs help trusting his world

By Cathy M. Rosenthal
Tribune Content Agency

Dear Cathy: In November, we adopted an 8-year-old Chihuahua. He was from a hoarding situation and had spent the previous two months with a foster family. He is a nervous and reserved dog though. He is slowly making progress and will allow us to put a leash on him, but will cower when we remove it. If we try to get near him, he runs away. He won't eat in the kitchen until we leave. He didn't bark much, but he's suddenly barking at my adult grandson, who lives with me.

Every few hours, we take him out to relieve himself, but he usually has an accident within an hour of those potty breaks. We give him a treat if he goes outside, but he will usually not take it. He's not food motivated. We have pee pads around the house, but we hope to eliminate them.

We knew it could take time before he trusts us, and we are okay with that. We praise him, rub his head, and try to reassure him. Hope you have some advice that can help.

— Linda, Middle Island, New York



With dogs that come from a hoarding situation it's important to keep a consistent routine, so they learn to trust the world around them, writes Cathy M. Rosenthal. DREAMSTIME

Dear Linda: Because hoarders hide the number of dogs they have, they often let their dogs relieve themselves inside their homes. They also don't walk them, so the leash is a new thing for your dog. The good news is, it's possible to potty train him, teach him how to walk on a leash, and help him trust the world again.

Continue with the scheduled potty breaks and praise him when he pees outside. Over time, remove the pee pads until you are down to just one. Give it a month with one pee pad, and then try moving it outside to see if he makes the connection. If he is still having accidents, continue the training with one pee

pad in the house.

You and your grandson can reduce his nervousness and increase his trust by spending quiet time with your dog, like when watching television. This is a good time to place the leash nearby so he gets used to seeing it. If possible, also engage him in play and train him. Dogs from hoarding cases sometimes don't know how to play so it can take time to find something he enjoys. With training, just praise him with a pat on the head and a kind word, if he likes that. Finally, keep a consistent routine, so he can learn to trust the world around him.

Because of his background, this may take considerable time, but it sounds like you are the right person to help him.

Dear Cathy: In a letter from "V" in Baltimore, "V" was worried about her friend who lived alone with major health issues, including oxygen tanks with tubes running throughout the house. One suggestion you didn't give her was to contact the shelter and be sure they knew that the person who wants the dog has oxygen tubes running through the house and frequent hospitalizations. If the pet tripped over and

disconnected a tube or was a chewer and bit through the tube, this could be life-threatening for the elderly widow.

— Dolores, Boynton Beach, Florida

Dear Dolores: I can appreciate where you are coming from, but don't think people should call an animal shelter and tell them that someone coming to adopt a dog shouldn't be allowed to adopt or that the person has limitations that might impact their well-being or the pet's care. First, I don't think the staff would consider the advice since they don't know the

relationship between the caller and the adopter and would not know the true motive behind the call. And second, V's friend is still an adult capable of making her own decisions, and we have to respect that.

I sense your worry over her adopting a dog, so let me alleviate those concerns by saying that every animal shelter and rescue group that I know of interviews and screens every adopter. They will get a good feel from her answers about whether she is in the right place to adopt right now. If they don't feel she would be a suitable adopter, they will deny her and explain why.

Hearing this from a shelter or rescue group is sometimes easier than hearing it from a friend.

The woman may also be a good foster parent. Animal shelters support foster parents with pet food and pet care until a home can be found, and they can easily take the dog back if she has to be hospitalized.

Cathy M. Rosenthal is an animal advocate, author, columnist and pet expert. Send your questions, stories and tips to cathy@petpundit.com. Please include your name, city and state. You can follow her [@cathym_rosenthal](https://www.instagram.com/cathym_rosenthal).

Umbrella usurper's actions presumptuous and menacing



Judith Martin
Miss Manners

Dear Miss Manners: I came out of work in a heavy rain-storm. As I walked to my car, a man who works at the same place, but whom I barely know, came up behind me, put his hand on my umbrella and pulled it toward him. At that point it was half on me and half on him.

I wanted to tell him off or pull it away from him, but since he works near me, all I said was that I was getting soaked. He ignored me and did not take his hand off the umbrella. We walked all the way to the cars and I was pretty much drenched.

Miss Manners, am I obligated to let someone share my umbrella? If not, what should I have done or said?

Gentle reader: Under normal circumstances, it is a kind gesture to share one's umbrella with acquaintances who would otherwise be drenched. The general rule is that the taller person holds it, giving coverage priority to the owner.

However, Miss Manners is afraid that what this man did was not only presumptuous, but also somewhat menacing. Startling people by taking even partial possession of their belongings is normally considered illegal, and at the very least, it is certainly not civil. Not wanting to reward this man, but feeling the need to emphasize the point, Miss Manners suggests that you bring him a present: his own cheap umbrella. The accompanying message could be, "So that we don't both get soaked next time,

perhaps you would like to keep this at work." She would understand if you chose to leave this as a note, however, rather than say it in person.

Dear Miss Manners: I have noticed that many female TV anchors and reporters wear skimpy outfits that would be more appropriate at the beach. Men always dress in proper outfits, while many women wear sleeveless tops that do not look professional. Why are women allowed to do this?

Gentle reader: "Allowed?"

Miss Manners has also noticed the gender discrepancy in clothing styles among male and female newscasters. But she hardly thinks that working journalists are insisting upon wearing frivolous clothes on the job.

You might consider the possibility that someone in the station or network hierarchy has decreed that female broadcasters should look flirty — like flight attendants, back when they were called stewardesses.

If we go even further back, broadcasters used to wear evening clothes at night — even radio broadcasters. Formality, if anyone remembers that once-respectable concept, was intended to signify seriousness, not playfulness. (Anyway, those broadcasters were all male, so titillation was not an issue.)

To get back to the present: Sleevelessness at the anchor desk doesn't seem as incongruous as party clothes. Plunging necklines and dangling earrings may be fetching on the social scene, but that is hardly the context in which one expects people to be announcing mass shootings and raging fires.

Dear Miss Manners: I am hoping you could settle a minor matter regarding the proper way of drinking tea.

When one is holding a teacup, is it proper to relax your fingers while holding the cup handle, or should you raise your pinkie finger in a curled position? I was told that the latter was pretentious.

I therefore simply hold the handle between my thumb and forefinger and relax the other three digits next to them. Would the queen approve?

Gentle reader: If you are referring to the queen of England, let us not bother her. She has enough family troubles.

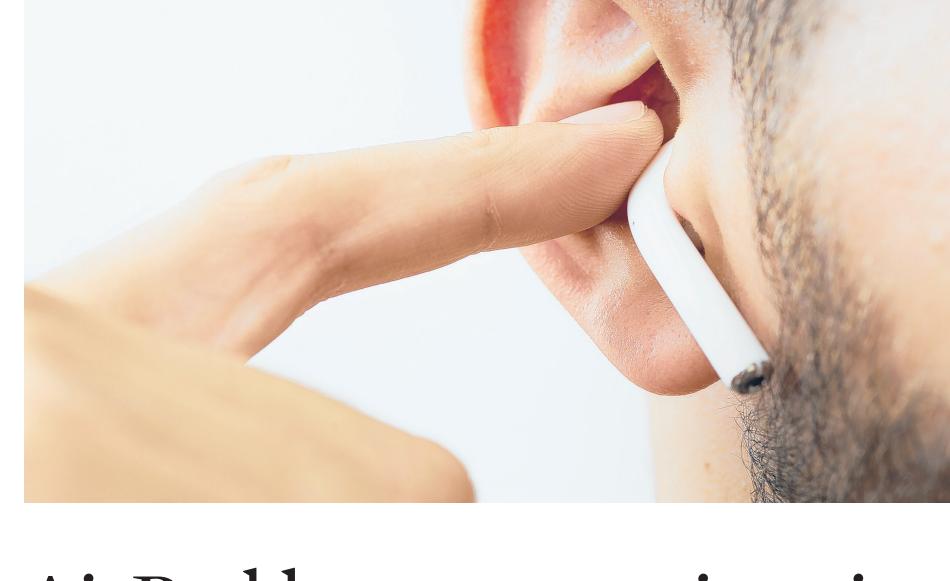
The raised pinkie was a precaution when tea-drinking first spread to Europe from China, because it was drunk from thin Chinese handle-less cups that held the heat and therefore needed to be gripped with as few fingers as possible.

Tea was extremely

expensive then — silver tea caddies came with locks — so the gesture became associated with the rich. And pretentiousness has always been associated with the rich, although Miss Manners has also noticed examples elsewhere.

When tea came down in price, and some genius thought of putting handles on teacups, the pinkie gesture became obsolete. But to Miss Manners' amusement, the gesture has lasted for centuries as a sign of how ridiculous the rich are.

To send a question to the Miss Manners team of Judith Martin, Nicholas Ivor Martin and Jacobina Martin, go to missmanners.com or write them c/o Universal Uclick, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, MO 64106.



AirPod loss prevention tips



Ellen Warren
Answer Angel

Dear Answer Angel: I received a gift of AirPods Pro for a recent birthday

and rather than enhancing my exercise regimen

with worry-free listening, my left pod keeps

falling out of my ear. This

happened once while

running outdoors and I

didn't even notice I was

missing it until somebody

came running after me to

hand it back to me. These

things are so expensive

that I'm fearful about

wearing them anywhere

except a confined space

like the gym or my house.

That defeats the whole

purpose! I'd like to hear

what you and your readers

have found to eliminate

the problem. Surely I'm not

the only one who has run

into this.

— Sandy P.

Dear Sandy: I too have

found that one of my

AirPods Pro consistently

falls out of my ear. So I am

especially motivated to

solve our problem.

There are a couple

ways for you to go. None are foolproof. I tested the elago Ear Hook Designed for AirPods Pro ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Elago-Ear-Hook-Designed-AirPods-Pro/dp/B08HJLWZPQ), \$10.49). Sure, they kept the pods from falling on the ground (or in the car) when they popped out. However, you have to take the hooks off to charge the pods, which is a pain. But that's preferable to paying the \$89 each replacement fee.

Now I'm testing the Eartune Fidelity Premium Memory Foam Tips — six per order — which come in small, medium, large or assorted sizes and in many colors ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com/Eartune-Fidelity-Premium-Memory-Foam-Tips/dp/B08HJLWZPQ), \$14.99), so if the bud does fall out, it's easier to spot than the white ones that come with the AirPods. The Memory Foam is supposedly "slow rebounding," which "will allow you to choose what will perfectly fit." So far I've only had one incident of one falling out of my ear while running, but that's one too many.

Also, although these are advertised to fit in the charging case, the first time I tried that, one of the pods didn't charge. After fiddling with the foam a bit, it did charge. Any reader out there have better luck with solving Sandy's (and my) problem.

we'd love to hear from you.

Reader rant

From Alice S.: "Three

rants: 1) Childproof caps.

2) Squeeze bottles that

don't squeeze easily. 3)

Fitted bottom sheets. Is it

possible to buy a sheet set

where the bottom sheet is flat?"

From Ellen: 1) Ask the

pharmacy for non-child-

proof caps. Lots of us,

young and old, have trou-

ble opening them (though

if there are kids in the

house, think twice about

this). 2) Store squeeze

bottles upside-down and/

or invest in mini spatulas

that will help you scrape

the last bits out of the

bottle. Search the internet

for "long handle beauty

spatula" ([amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com) from \$1.58). 3) There's not

much consumer interest in flat bottom sheets. Your

options are to buy the flat

sheets separately or buy a

fitted sheet with a pocket

deep enough to eliminate

— or at least reduce — the

gymnastics it takes to make

the bed.

Now it's your turn

Send your questions, rants,

tips, favorite finds — on

style, shopping, makeup,

fashion and beauty — to

answerangeellen@gmail.com.

Link between diabetes drug, birth defects

Study shows risks can result if father took Metformin

By Julia Marnin
The Charlotte Observer

There's a connection between a commonly prescribed drug for diabetes and a higher risk for birth defects if a father uses it within three months of conceiving a baby, a new study has found.

The drug metformin, one of the top treatments for Type 2 diabetes, is linked to this heightened risk, according to researchers from Stanford University and Denmark. The drug helps control high blood sugar, according to WebMD.

Specifically, there's as much as a 40% greater chance of babies being born with birth defects, including genital, digestive, urinary, heart, chromosomal and limb defects if a father uses it within the certain time frame, according to the work published recently in the journal *Annals of Internal Medicine*.

A higher risk of developing genital birth defects was found only in baby boys, the study found.

While many health risk factors for women conceiving children are understood, there's a "limited but growing understanding of how paternal factors can affect" a child's health, a Stanford Medicine news release on the research said.

"Given that men contribute half the DNA to a child, it makes sense that there could be some effects that travel through paternal pathways as well," Dr. Michael Eisenberg, Stanford urology professor and a senior author of the study, said in a statement.

"It wasn't just taking metformin at any time in a man's life; it really has to do with taking it in that



While many health risk factors for women conceiving children are understood, there's a "limited but growing understanding of how paternal factors can affect" a child's health, Stanford Medicine says. VLADIMIRS PRUSAKOVIS/DREAMSTIME

window when the sperm that is going to become the child is being developed."

The study was based on health-registry data from Denmark on more than 1 million births between 1997 and 2016.

"When I saw the paper ... I thought: 'Yup, this is gonna go viral,'" Dr. Germaine Buck Louis, a reproductive and perinatal epidemiologist at George Mason University, told Science about the work.

Metformin is often the "first medication prescribed for type 2 diabetes," according to the Mayo Clinic.

In the U.S., Type 2 diabetes affects roughly 90-95% of people with diabetes, typically adults, while type 1 diabetes affects about 5% of those with the condition, typically first diagnosed in kids and teens, according to Johns Hopkins University.

More on the research

An analysis of 1,116,779

birth records revealed 36,585 babies born in Denmark between 1997 and 2016, or 3.3%, had "1 or more major birth defects," according to the study.

Additionally, 51.4% of these babies were male.

The median ages of the mothers and fathers were 30 and 33, researchers noted. Babies born to women who had diabetes or hypertension weren't included in the study, according to the news release.

Of this group, 1,451 babies born to fathers who used metformin within three months of conception were identified. It was found that 5.2% of these children had birth defects.

Offspring of fathers who filled a metformin prescription "during the 3 months before conception," also known as the time when sperm develop, "were considered exposed," according to the work.

"These rates mean

that, in Denmark, where today approximately 120 babies per year are exposed through their fathers, metformin use may account for two additional babies born with birth defects every year," the news release notes.

Of the 1,451 metformin-exposed babies, genital birth defects were more common and only seen in male offspring, but fewer boys were born overall, according to the research.

Researchers compared metformin-exposed babies with those who were insulin-exposed, with unexposed siblings and with babies whose fathers took metformin before or after sperm development. They didn't find "elevated birth defect frequencies" in those groups unlike the children exposed to metformin during sperm development.

Ultimately, it's not exactly clear why a father's

metformin use while sperm is maturing is linked to birth defects in offspring, the news release said.

However, prior studies in mice "have shown that the drug can cause reproductive harm."

Birth defects are responsible for roughly 20% of infant deaths in the U.S., according to Buck Louis, who wrote an editorial on the study.

"Given the prevalence of metformin use as first-line therapy for Type 2 diabetes, corroboration of these findings is urgently needed."

Buck Louis said the research calls for a "more conclusive study of the potential risks for paternal use of diabetes drugs to offspring."

When asked whether men planning to become fathers should avoid metformin, Eisenberg said in a statement, "I think that it's a single study, so it's hard to change clinical practice based on that."

"But for somebody considering fatherhood, this study emphasizes the importance of a father's health on the health of a child."

One study limitation included how "information on underlying disease status was limited," according to the research.

The work received funding from the National Institutes of Health.

More on metformin

Metformin was approved in 1995 as a Type 2 diabetes treatment by the Food and Drug Administration.

"[Metformin] is widely used even by young men because of the obesity issue that we have. So that is potentially a huge source of exposure for the next generation," Buck Louis told Science.

Also, "doctors have long prescribed (metformin) off-label — that is, to treat conditions outside its approved use" for diabetes, according to Harvard University.

The drug is known for cardiovascular benefits and has been prescribed for prediabetes, gestational diabetes, polycystic ovary syndrome and antipsychotic medicine-induced weight gain, the university points out.

It's also being investigated for its potential to decrease the risk breast, colon and prostate cancer for those living with Type 2 diabetes, according to Harvard. Additionally, researchers are looking into whether it can lower dementia and stroke risks, as well as slow down aging and prolong life-expectancy.

"When we think about reproduction, we still mostly think about maternal factors, so this study brings further awareness that paternal factors can make a difference," Eisenberg said in the news release.

"Don't forget the father."

PEOPLE'S PHARMACY PRESCRIPTIONS AND HOME REMEDIES

Consuming alcohol, Tylenol could lead to liver damage

By Joe Graedon, M.S., and Teresa Graedon, Ph.D.
King Features Syndicate

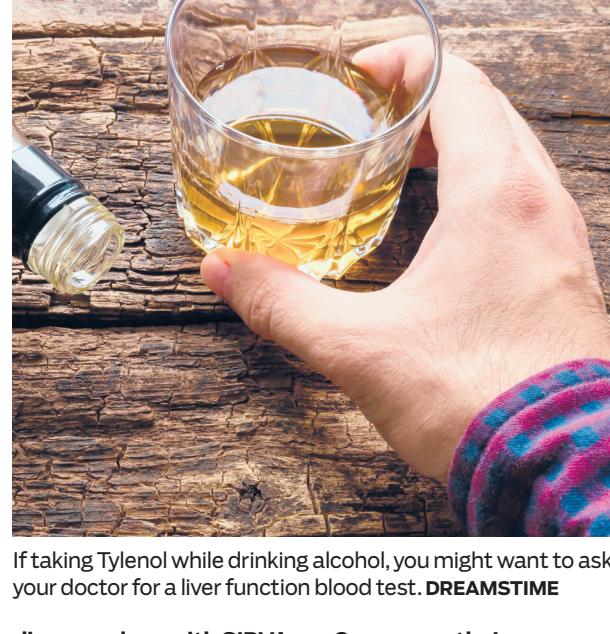
Q: You've warned against taking acetaminophen while consuming alcohol. Just what do you mean? Don't take the medicine if you've had a drink in the past week? Or just the same day? Or don't swallow the pill with alcohol? I have one drink daily, just one. Also, I've taken Tylenol PM nightly for a long time. Should I be worried? What problems might occur?

A: The warning label on Extra Strength Tylenol PM states quite clearly: "When using this product ... avoid alcoholic drinks." The combination could increase your risk for liver damage. Given your long history with Tylenol PM and a single daily drink, you might want to ask your doctor for a liver function blood test.

One reader shared this scary story: "I knew a young woman who regularly drank vodka and took Tylenol for headaches. Her liver was destroyed, and she ultimately died after a failed liver transplant. This combination can be deadly!"

Q: I received my COVID-19 vaccines and booster in my right arm. After each injection, my arm hurt for several days. To this day, I sometimes feel soreness at the injection site of the booster, which I received in October.

By mid-November, I'd lost range of motion in my right arm and had persistent pain that interfered with sleeping. My doctor ordered X-rays and physical therapy. I stuck with it for 10 weeks but got no results, so I saw an orthopedic surgeon. He



If taking Tylenol while drinking alcohol, you might want to ask your doctor for a liver function blood test. DREAMSTIME

diagnosed me with SIRVA and gave me a cortisone injection. My range of motion has finally improved as well as the pain.

A: We are sorry you've had such trouble. SIRVA is shorthand for Shoulder Injury Related to Vaccine Administration. It can happen after any kind of vaccination, including a flu shot. If the shot is applied to the wrong part of the arm muscle, it can cause stiffness and limited range of motion as well as prolonged pain. The injection should go into the thickest part of the deltoid muscle. Vaccinators are supposed to use landmarks to locate the muscle rather than just eyeballing where to give the shot.

Q: After reading an article you wrote about cinnamon, I started adding one half teaspoon of Ceylon cinnamon to the dry coffee grounds in my four-cup brew pot daily. That's my daily ration of half-caf coffee. Before that, my A1C had risen to nearly 6.

Consequently, I was pre-diabetic, but I do not want to take metformin. I will have my A1C checked again in several months and hopefully it will be lower. Thank you for offering alternatives to medications. They often come with too many side effects for my comfort.

A: Controlling blood glucose is crucial for good health. There's good reason to expect your daily dose of cinnamon will help you do that (Clinical Nutrition, April 2019). This effect was first reported from a clinical trial conducted almost 20 years ago (Diabetes Care, December 2003). Ceylon cinnamon is not a wise choice, since it does not affect the liver as cassia cinnamon, the most common spice, can (BMC Complementary and Alternative Medicine, Dec. 28, 2017).

In their column, Joe and Teresa Graedon answer letters from readers. Send questions to them via www.peoplestharmacy.com.

Q&A

Kidney stones and calcium

Mayo Clinic

Q: I have trouble with kidney stones and recently found out they are calcium oxalate stones. While I have stopped consuming all dairy products, I know that I need calcium as I age for bone health. Would adding in almond milk or another type of plant milk help? How do I take care of both my kidneys and bones?

A: It sounds like your concern about milk and other dairy products is that their calcium may spur the development of more kidney stones. But people who've had calcium oxalate kidney stones need a certain amount of calcium in their diets.

Although almond milk and other plant-based milks, such as soy milk, contain calcium, they also contain oxalate. People with a history of calcium oxalate stones often are cautioned to avoid oxalate-rich foods. Cow's milk doesn't have oxalate, but it has the calcium and many other beneficial nutrients that you need, so it is a good choice for you.

Kidney stones made of calcium oxalate form when urine contains more of these substances than the fluid in the urine can dilute. When that happens, the calcium and oxalate form crystals. At the same time, the urine may lack citrate, a substance that prevents the crystals from sticking together, creating an ideal environment for kidney stones to form.

It may seem to make sense that when calcium and oxalate make up the kidney stones that avoiding both should help. But calcium is a critical part of your diet. Your body needs it not only to keep your bones healthy, but also to regulate your blood pressure and aid in muscle function. Oxalate is a naturally occurring substance

found in many foods. Some fruits and vegetables, as well as nuts and chocolate, have high oxalate levels. Your liver also produces oxalate.

A key for preventing growth of calcium oxalate stones is to get the right amount of calcium: 1,200 milligrams daily. If you have calcium-rich foods or beverages at each meal, you lower the amount of oxalate absorbed into your bloodstream, reducing your risk of new kidney stones.

For the best stone prevention, calcium should come from food. When you consider good sources of calcium, dairy products are high on the list. Check the nutrition facts label to find out how much calcium is in these and other beverages and foods. But if you are not consuming milk or yogurt at meals, talk to your health care provider about calcium supplements or pills.

In addition to getting the right amount of calcium, you can make other important changes to reduce your risk of calcium oxalate kidney stones. It's important to drink plenty of water and other fluids. Drink about 8 to 10 ounces of liquid each hour you're awake or at least 2 liters per day. The easiest way to know whether you're drinking enough fluids



People who have had calcium oxalate kidney stones need a certain amount of calcium in their diets. DREAMSTIME

is to look at your urine. It should be almost clear.

Another important change is to reduce your sodium intake. Excess dietary sodium leads to higher calcium levels in urine, increasing the risk of all calcium-based kidney stones. Aim for less than 2,000 milligrams of sodium per day.

You also may need to cut down on foods rich in oxalate. Unfortunately, oxalate content is not listed on food labels. The highest amounts of oxalate are found in certain fruits, vegetables, and other plant foods, such as beans, nuts, and bran cereals or breads. Meats, eggs, dairy products, white rice and pasta are generally low in oxalate.

For more information on diet changes that can lower your risk for kidney stones, talk to your health care provider or a dietitian. He or she can guide your dietary choices to reduce your risk of stones while still getting the nutrition you need. — Katherine Zeratsky, R.D.N., Endocrinology/Nutrition, Mayo Clinic, Rochester, Minnesota

Mayo Clinic Q&A is an educational resource and doesn't replace regular medical care. Email a question to MayoClinicQ&A@mayo.edu.

Pioneering female comics finally get their due

Levy offers insight into barriers they broke with laughter

By Nate Jackson
Los Angeles Times

It wasn't that long ago that successful female comedians were forced to stifle themselves to be funny. But it was the obstacle that all of the first women in comedy had in common on their journey to fame.

For Joan Rivers, Moms Mabley, Minnie Pearl, Phyllis Diller and many others, masking their femininity, sexuality and intellect added extra layers to showbiz's glass ceiling. It was only through their determination and undeniable talent that they managed to redefine the boundaries of their craft.

In the pages of "In On the Joke," bestselling author Shawn Levy unearths a lost history in stand-up that gives jaw-dropping insight into the barriers that the first female comics broke with laughter.

Q: How did the research for this book compare with previous books you've done on male figures in classic Hollywood?

A: I had to start from almost zero. I'm 60 years old, so I have memories of seeing many of these women perform. And of course, Joan Rivers was with us until about a decade ago ... I knew Phyllis Diller's work, I remember Totie Fields and Moms Mabley performing before their deaths. But I only knew them as someone who consumed the entertainment. I really didn't have the ability to write about them or tell their stories. I wasn't originally intending to write a chapter on Moms Mabley or Minnie Pearl because I thought all I had to do was write about traditional, white, mainstream showbiz. Then I



Phyllis Diller, seen performing in 1967, is among the comedians featured in "In On the Joke." AP

realized, "Oh, you can't ignore these women at all — and by the way, they are killers and heroes who absolutely deserve their place." A whole chunk of this history was new to me ... so I learned along with the reader.

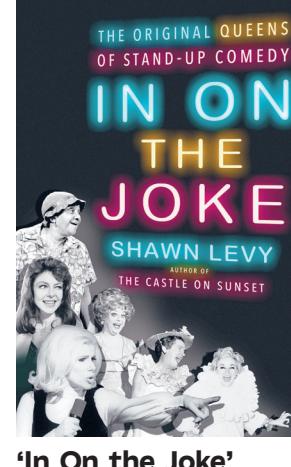
Q: This particular period between World War II and 1970 is such a fertile time for the evolution of modern stand-up comedy. How did women have to adapt to get visibility on stage?

A: The earliest female comedians had to create a

persona around themselves and play against their femininity. Moms was playing a granny when she was in her 30s and 40s. Minnie Pearl was college-educated, and to do comedy, she pretended to be an uneducated rube. Phyllis Diller often played the housewife who got shocked with electricity through her hair. ... The one exception was a woman I literally knew nothing about, Jean Carroll, who was performing stand-up dressed like a man in a tux, telling jokes about her family, no-good

kid or lazy husband in the 1940s. They all had to do something to disfigure or deform themselves, or put a bracket around themselves and say, "I'm not really a woman. I don't have the problems of women."

Minnie Pearl was married by the time she was really famous. And she was always playing this woman looking for fellas. Moms Mabley was queer, which was well-known in showbiz circles, not so much to her audience. Today, I believe female comedians can be



'In On the Joke'

By Shawn Levy; Doubleday, 400 pages, \$30.

absolutely who they are on stage. But that took decades of these women carving a path that they could then follow and extend.

Q: The book opens with Diller dressing as a man in order to get into the Friars Club Roast in 1983 — even though at that point she was probably bigger than any male comedian who was allowed to be there.

A: She was certainly the richest person in the room. When Phyllis Diller performed on television in the '60s, she was a movie star, she was playing sold-out theaters all over the country, and she'd go on TV and get one-tenth of what Jack Benny or Milton Berle was being paid. She had several TV shows,

and if they didn't immediately prove themselves, they got the rug pulled out. Meanwhile, Bob Hope was under contract to NBC and Milton Berle had a contract that paid him for 25 years after he went off the air. Phyllis had to start from scratch every time; Joan Rivers was the same way.

Q: Are there any key similarities you found in these women?

A: They were all the type of person who was the funniest one in their group.

I don't know this for sure about Moms Mabley

because so much of her early history is a mystery — there are no accounts of her until she comes to New York in her late 20s. Phyllis Diller was the funniest person at her college, Minnie Pearl was the funniest of her college class. Everyone said Elaine May was a genius from the first time they met her. Joan Rivers could crack her friends up when she was hanging out with young actors.

So they all had something, but comedy kept being the thing that they most succeeded at. And they were adaptable and they were determined.

Joan Rivers played strip joints, she was an assistant to a magician, she got fired on stage over the PA by a club owner in upstate New York. Comics of today

that I admire like Sarah Silverman, Sandra Bernhard, Wanda Sykes, they could look back and say, "Oh, somebody did this, so I could do that." These women that I wrote about, there was no one for them to look back to. They were their own trainer and coach.

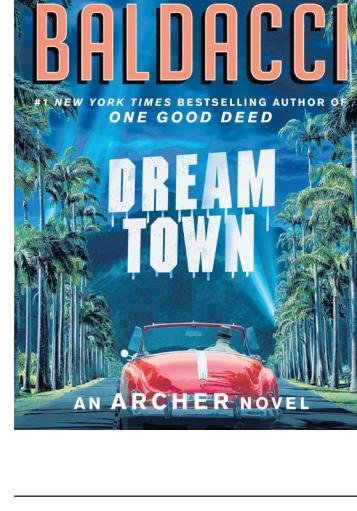
Q: How is this book able to add to the discussion about the roles and opportunities open to female comics today?

A: When this book is in the hands of active comedians, both women and men can see how much of what happened is still going on and how many gender-based obstacles still pervade. I think that conversation is still worth having. It's worth noting that there are some books that talk about contemporary comedy in the '70s during the "Saturday Night Live" era and later, but these pioneer women get very short attention. Totie Fields is literally a footnote in one of them and she had a major career. ... I hope through this book, comics like her get their due.

NATIONAL BESTSELLERS

HARDCOVER FICTION

1. "Dream Town" by David Baldacci (Grand Central) Last week: —



2. "Beautiful" by Danielle Steel (Delacorte) Last week: —

3. "Run, Rose, Run" by Dolly Parton and James Patterson (Little, Brown) Last week: 2

4. "The Investigator" by John Sandford (Putnam) Last week: 1

5. "Kingdom of Bones: A Thriller" by James Rollins (Morrow) Last week: —

6. "Sea of Tranquility" by Emily St. John Mandel (Knopf) Last week: 3

7. "What Happened to the Bennetts" by Lisa Scottoline (Putnam) Last week: 4

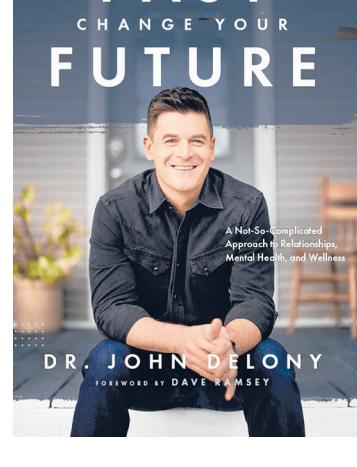
8. "The Paris Apartment" by Lucy Foley (Morrow) Last week: 5

9. "The Recovery Agent" by Janet Evanovich (Atria) Last week: 6

10. "The Last Thing He Told Me" by Laura Dave (Simon & Schuster) Last week: —

HARDCOVER NONFICTION

1. "Own Your Past Change Your Future: A Not-So-Complicated Approach to Relationships, Mental Health and Wellness" by Dave Ramsey and John Delony (Ramsey Press) Last week: —



2. "The Mothers and Daughters of the Bible Speak: Lessons on Faith from Nine Biblical Families" by Shannon Bream (Broadside) Last week: 1

3. "Atlas of the Heart: Mapping Meaningful Connection and the Language of Human Experience" by Brene Brown (Random House) Last week: 5

4. "Half Baked Harvest Every Day: Recipes for Balanced, Flexible, Feel-Good Meals: A Cookbook" by Tieghan Gerard (Clarkson Potter) Last week: 2

5. "Trump 45: America's Greatest President" by L.D. Hicks (Post Hill) Last week: —

6. "The Art of the Batman" by James Field (Abrams) Last week: —

7. "Welcome to the Universe in 3D: A Visual Tour" by Neil deGrasse Tyson et al. (Princeton University) Last week: —

8. "Freezing Order: A True Story of Money Laundering, Murder, and Surviving Vladimir Putin's Wrath" by Bill Browder (Simon & Schuster) Last week: 3

9. "The 21st Century: Photographs From the Image Collection" (National Geographic) Last week: —

10. "Things That Matter: Overcoming Distraction to Pursue a More Meaningful Life" by Joshua Becker (WaterBrook) Last week: —

FICTION REVIEWS

Teen boys fall in love amid violence

Douglas Stuart's exhilarating, heartbreakingly follow-up to his Booker Prize-winning novel "Shuggie Bain" eloquently reminds us of the disastrous consequences of ignorance and intolerance.

Set in the 1980s in a grim working-class neighborhood of Glasgow, "Young Mungo" is a love story about two teenage boys — one Protestant, one Catholic. But it's also a gut-wrenching story of survival, about how delicate things can bloom in a hard place, then all too easily be snuffed out.

At 15, Mungo has survived a childhood full of disappointment and neglect with fewer wounds than you might expect: He is not yet broken. He still loves his alcoholic mother, who has disappeared with a new man (his older sister Jodie, on the verge of university and escape, has given up on her). Still, the shadows that loom over Mungo — poverty, lack of opportunity, his violent older brother Hamish, a curious lack of interest in girls when most of his contemporaries are busily impregnating them — have not yet managed to dim his inner light.

Still, Mungo understands he's different. He's not fragile, but he's increasingly unwilling to join Hamish's gang as they pursue their nightly activities (theft, drug sales, destruction of both property and Catholics). Then Mungo meets James, a Catholic boy who tends a rooftop dove-cote, and suddenly a light winks in his bleak existence.

Stuart reels out two story lines with equal attention to detail and emotion. In one, Mungo and James embark on a tentative friendship. In the other, set a few months later, Mungo's mother has sent her son off for a weekend of camping in the wilderness with two men



'Young Mungo'

By Douglas Stuart; Grove, 400 pages, \$27.

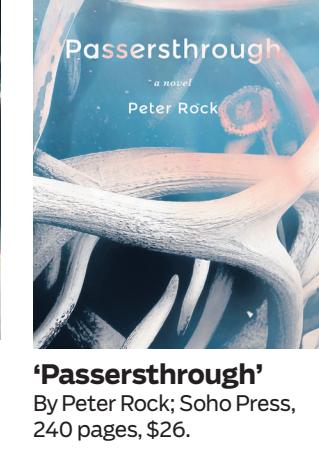
she barely knows. Stuart wrings immense tension from both story lines, infusing the novel with an edgy, relentless urgency.

The language is gorgeous, poetic, expertly evoking the dour streets of Glasgow and its people.

Every secondary character is well-defined enough to carry his or her own novel, from Hamish and Jodie to James. Stuart shows us so much ugliness, but he offers a promise of hope, too. This book will hurt your heart, so reach for that hope. Sometimes it's all we can do. — Connie Ogle, Minneapolis Star Tribune

Like Peter Rock's 10 previous works of fiction, his new novel mixes characters who live on the margins of society with those in the mainstream.

"Passerthrough" despite its promising beginning, evolves into a bizarre, otherworldly environment that never clearly seems resolved. "Passerthrough" starts with an audio capture transcription between California woman Helen Hanson, 36, and her estranged father, Benjamin, 76, who lives in Oregon. Helen's mother died a few months earlier and among her effects, Helen found 11 birthday cards addressed



'Passerthrough'

By Peter Rock; Soho Press, 240 pages, \$26.

to Helen from her father. This discovery led her to reestablish a relationship with her father that fell apart 25 years earlier after they went camping together near Mt. Rainier.

During that camping excursion, we learn that 11-year-old Helen went missing for almost a week before being discovered at a cabin more than 100 miles from where her father reported her missing. Although there was no evidence of foul play, Helen moved in with her mother as her parents had separated shortly before this incident, likely because of another family trauma: the death of Helen's younger brother a year earlier.

What follows could be an explanation of what happened between Benjamin and his daughter those many years ago, but it's uncertain. In the end the reader doesn't have any clearer idea than Benjamin did about what happened to his children more than two decades earlier. And perhaps that is what Rock wants. Uncertainties and mysteries always surround death and disappearance. And while we may hope we find answers in stories, and in life, that's not always what happens. — Jim Carmin, Minneapolis Star Tribune

For the week ended April 23, compiled from data from independent and chain bookstores, book wholesalers and independent distributors nationwide.

— Publishers Weekly

Hartford Courant
SPORTS
COURANT.COM/SPORTS

NFL DRAFT

Contrast in picks is on full display

Giants' Thibodeaux is in New York to become star

By Pat Leonard
 New York Daily News

NEW YORK — A general manager's first draft pick with a team means something extra. He will be tied to that player forever, and the pick says something about the GM's thought process and risk tolerance.

Dave Gettleman and Saquon Barkley always will be connected. And now so will Joe Schoen and Kayvon Thibodeaux, the charismatic Oregon pass rusher who landed in New Jersey on Saturday morning with a hoarse voice and a \$36 million dollar smile.

"Touching down it was like, it's meant to be," Thibodeaux, 21, said early Saturday morning on the auditorium stage inside the Giants'

East Rutherford, N.J., facility. Alabama offensive tackle Evan Neal and Thibodeaux both were thoughtful, personable and genuine during their first meeting with the New York media.

The impressive 6-7, 340-pound Neal barely fit through the doorway when he entered. The No. 7 overall pick said he was 378 pounds in eighth grade. Thibodeaux, who was selected fifth overall, shook his head in amazement.

"One thing I take away from the Giants organization," Neal, 21, said, "is that they are really trying to get back to that winning culture. And that's something that I really respect."

Thibodeaux is a fascinating

Turn to Giants, Page 2

NFL DRAFT DAY 3**Giants**

Round 4: (112) Daniel Bellinger, TE, San Diego State, (114) Dane Belton, S, Iowa. **Round 5:** (146) Micah McFadden, LB, Indiana

(147) D.J. Davidson, DT, Arizona State, (173) Marcus McKethan, OG, North Carolina. **Round 6:** (182) Darrian Beavers, LB, Cincinnati

Patriots

Round 4: (121) Jack Jones, CB, Arizona State, (127) Pierre Strong, Jr., RB, South Dakota State, (137)

Bailey Zappe, QB, Western Kentucky.

Round 6: (183) Kevin Harris, RB, South Carolina, (200) Sam Roberts, DT, NW Missouri, (210) Chasen Hines, C, LSU. **Round 7:** (245) Andrew Stueber, OT, Michigan

Jets

Round 4: (111) Max Mitchell, OT, Louisiana-Lafayette, (117) Micheal Clemons, EDGE, Texas A&M.

Patriots march to the beat of own draft board

By Christopher Gasper
 Boston Globe

BOSTON — Old Faithful isn't just an iconic geyser in Yellowstone National Park. It's an apt description of the Patriots' approach in the 2022 NFL Draft and the entire offseason. While the rest of the NFL is engaged in an arms race for big names on both sides of the ball, the Patriots are adding FCS guards in the first round.

It's peak Patriots. We'll see if the results of this old-school Patriots offseason match those from the good old days. I have considerably less faith they will.

All it took was a viable quarterback (Mac Jones) and one wildcard playoff berth for Bill Belichick to revert to his trusty gridiron

gospel. In Belichick We Trust, and in The System Belichick Trusts.

That's the message from this low-key offseason, one that's a stark contrast from last offseason's uncharacteristic free agent spending spree and Belichick spending a first-round pick on a quarterback for the first time in his storied career. It's now apparent that didn't represent a sea change in Fort Foxborough. It was a one-off designed to make us forget about botching Tom Brady's departure.

Belichick has bucked convention and consensus with great success during his brilliant career. The difference is that when he did it here he had the safety net of the century in Brady. He's still operat-

Turn to Patriots, Page 2

CELTICS

Boston feels ready for challenge

Gear up for the start of series against Bucks

By Kyle Hightower
 Associated Press

BOSTON — The Celtics' sweep of the Brooklyn Nets in the first round of the playoffs underscored one thing about Boston's late-season rise to the top tier of the NBA's Eastern Conference: it was no fluke.

Leaning on the defensive brand cultivated under rookie coach Ime Udoka and punctuated by big scoring games by All-Star Jayson Tatum, Boston stymied a Brooklyn team that looked to be gaining late-season momentum led by Kevin Durant and Kyrie Irving.

The only team to register a four-game sweep in the opening round, the Celtics are a conference-best 37-10 since their buzzer-beating loss to the Knicks on Jan. 6. They enter their second-round matchup with the defending champion Milwaukee Bucks playing their best basketball of the season.

Udoka said their performance against a high-quality Nets team that wasn't a typical No. 7 seed bodes well for them going forward.

"We understood this is the playoffs and we're gonna have to play really good teams," he said. "The only thing we talk about is we're a basketball team, not a track team. We're not running from people."

That includes embracing the challenge of trying to slow reigning NBA Finals MVP Giannis Antetokounmpo and the Bucks. The teams haven't met in a post-season series since 2019, which Milwaukee won 4-1 in what proved to be Irving's final games in a Boston jersey.

They split their four regular-season meetings this season, though they never met each other.

Turn to Celtics, Page 7

UP NEXT
Eastern Conference semifinals
 Game 1: Bucks at Celtics, 1 p.m., ABC

**TRACK AND FIELD**

For 50 years, Suitor has been a mainstay of the track scene



Trinity College's George Suitor is retiring after coaching for more than 50 years at various levels in Connecticut. STAN GODLEWSKI/HANDOUT

By Lori Riley
 Hartford Courant

HARTFORD — One former Trinity runner flew in from California. Another woke up at 3 a.m. and drove from Washington, D.C.

They were there, with a number of other alumni, at a Trinity track meet April 23 to honor their coach, George Suitor, who is retiring after 30 years of coaching at Trinity College.

"He trained me to be a runner," said Marisa Eddy, a 2001 Trinity graduate who now lives in Los Angeles.

Suitor had spotted Eddy playing

soccer at Trinity and turned her into an 800-meter runner.

"I found so much of who I was in it and it stays with me to this day," she said. "I still run. I'm a leader in business. I put all of that on him. It's really important for me to be here. I don't come out enough and support him enough. I wanted to make sure he knew how important he is to so many people and their development."

But Suitor's influence goes beyond Trinity and the college athletes he coached.

An East Hartford High graduate who went to Central Connecticut, Suitor started a cross country

program at Illing Middle School in Manchester, where he taught, then moved on to coach at Manchester High School, where he coached cross country from 1975-92 and track from 1981-92.

He and fellow coach and friend Dick Brimley were instrumental in moving the state cross country meets to Wickham Park. He and Brimley and fellow coach Bill Baron started the Wickham Invitational, one of the biggest cross country meets in New England. And he was the impetus behind the Randy Smith Journal Inquirer

Turn to Track, Page 7

SPORTS**UP NEXT**

Celtics: NBA Second Round vs. Bucks (Game 1), Sunday, 1 p.m.; NBA Second Round vs. Bucks (Game 2), Tuesday, time TBD; NBA Second Round at Bucks (Game 3), Saturday, time TBD
Bruins: NHL First Round at Hurricanes (Game 1), Monday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round at Hurricanes (Game 2), Wednesday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round vs. Hurricanes (Game 3), Friday, 7 p.m.
Rangers: NHL First Round vs. Penguins (Game 1), Tuesday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round vs. Penguins (Game 2), Thursday, 7 p.m.; NHL First Round at Penguins (Game 3), Saturday, 7 p.m.
Red Sox: at Orioles, Sunday, 1 p.m.; Angels, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Angels, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Yankees: at Royals, Sunday, 2 p.m.; at Blue Jays, Monday, 7 p.m.; at Blue Jays, Tuesday, 7 p.m.
Mets: Phillies, Sunday, 7 p.m.; Atlanta, Monday, 7 p.m.; Atlanta (2), Tuesday, 3 p.m.
Yard Goats: at Harrisburg, Sunday, 1 p.m.; Binghamton, Tuesday, 7 p.m.; Binghamton, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
Hartford Athletic: Loudoun United, Saturday, 7 p.m.; N.Y. Red Bulls II, May 14, 7 p.m.; at Tulsa, May 21, 8:30 p.m.

SPORTS ON TV**AUTO RACING**

11 a.m.: NHRA Drag Racing NHRA Four-Wide Nationals, Qualifying 2. (Taped) FS1

1 p.m.: IndyCar Racing Honda Indy Grand Prix of Alabama. (Live) NBC

3 p.m.: IMSA Weathertech Sportscar Championship Hyundai Monterey Sports Car Championship. (Live) NBC

3 p.m.: NASCAR Cup Series DuraMAX Drydene 400. (Live) FS1

7 p.m.: NHRA Drag Racing NHRA Four-Wide Nationals. (Same-day Tape) FS1

BASEBALL

12 p.m.: Kentucky at Florida. (Live) SEC

1 p.m.: Boston Red Sox at Baltimore Orioles. (Live) NESN

1:30 p.m.: Houston Astros at Toronto Blue Jays. (Live) SPRTNET

3 p.m.: Mississippi State at Missouri. (Live) SEC

4 p.m.: UC Irvine at Long Beach State. (Live) ESPNU

4:30 p.m.: Detroit Tigers at Los Angeles Dodgers. (Live) SPRTNET

7 p.m.: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets. (Live) ESPN

7 p.m.: Sunday Night Baseball with Kay-Rod: Philadelphia Phillies at New York Mets. (Live) ESPN2

BASKETBALL

1 p.m.: First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) ABC

3:30 p.m.: First Round: Teams TBA. (Live) ABC

2 a.m.: First Round: Teams TBA. (Same-day Tape) ESPN2

BOWLING

12 p.m.: Playoffs: Quarterfinals. (Taped) FS1

FOOTBALL

2:30 p.m.: USFL Football Pittsburgh Maulers vs Michigan Panthers. (Live) USA

GOLF

7 a.m.: DP World Tour Golf Catalunya Championship, Final Round. (Live) GOLF

1 p.m.: Mexico Open at Vidanta, Final Round. (Live) GOLF

3 p.m.: Mexico Open at Vidanta, Final Round. (Live) CBS

3 p.m.: Insperity Invitational, Final Round. (Live) GOLF

6 p.m.: Palos Verdes Championship, Final Round. (Live) GOLF

HOCKEY

8:30 a.m.: 2022 IIHF U-18 World

Championship Bronze Medal Game: Teams TBA. (Live) NHL

12:30 p.m.: 2022 IIHF U-18 World

Championship Gold Medal Game: Teams TBA. (Live) NHL

LACROSSE

12 p.m.: Notre Dame at Syracuse. (Live) ESPNU

1 p.m.: Women's College 3 ACC Championship, First Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC

3:30 p.m.: Women's College 3 ACC

Championship, Second Semifinal: Teams TBA. (Live) ACC

5:30 p.m.: North Carolina at Duke. (Live) ACC

MOTORCYCLE RACING

10 a.m.: American Flat Track, I-70 Half-Mile. (Taped) FS1

6 p.m.: MotoGP Racing Spanish Grand Prix. (Same-day Tape) CNBC

RUGBY

2 p.m.: Premiership Rugby London Irish vs Wasps. (Same-day Tape) CNBC

SOCCER

7 a.m.: Scottish Premier League Soccer Celtic FC vs Rangers. (Live) CBSSN

8:55 a.m.: Fútbol Premier League Everton vs Chelsea. (Live) TELE

9 a.m.: Premier League Soccer Everton vs Chelsea. (Live) USA

11 a.m.: Fútbol Premier League West Ham vs Arsenal. (Live) TELE

11:30 a.m.: Premier League Soccer West Ham United vs Arsenal. (Live) USA

12:55 p.m.: Fútbol Mexicano Primera División Pumas UNAM vs Pachuca. (Live) UNI

3:50 p.m.: 2022 CONCACAF Women's U-17

Championship (Live) FSP

4 p.m.: MLS Soccer Philadelphia Union at Nashville SC. (Live) ESPN

6:50 p.m.: 2022 CONCACAF Women's U-17

Championship (Live) FSP

9 p.m.: 2022 CONCACAF Women's U-17

Championship (Same-day Tape) FSP

10 p.m.: MLS Soccer Minnesota United FC at Los Angeles FC. (Live) FS1

11 p.m.: Copa do Brasil Soccer Altos vs Flamengo PL. (Same-day Tape) FSP

SOFTBALL

11 a.m.: Virginia Tech at Boston College. (Live) ACC

12 p.m.: Florida at LSU. (Live) ESPN2

1 p.m.: Ole Miss at Arkansas. (Live) ESPN

2 p.m.: Houston at South Florida. (Live) ESPNU

6 p.m.: Tennessee at Ole Miss. (Live) SEC

7 p.m.: Dartmouth at Harvard. (Taped) NESN

TENNIS

5 a.m.: ATP/WTA Tennis Madrid-ATP/WTA. (Live) TENNIS

WINTER SPORTS

12 p.m.: 2022 World Mixed Doubles Curling

Championship United States vs Turkey. (Taped) CNBC



From left to right, Ahmad Gardner, Jermaine Johnson and Garrett Wilson pose for a portrait while holding New York Jets jerseys Friday in Florham Park, N.J. BRITTAINY NEWMAN/AP

JETS

Johnson impressed by efforts to acquire him

By Al Iannazzone

Newsday

FLORHAM PARK, N.J. — Joe Douglas hung up the phone and pumped his fist as he announced in the Jets' war room, "We're on the [expletive] clock." He got up and repeated it while hugging coach Robert Saleh as sounds of cheering and clapping filled the room.

Saleh had just acquired the No. 26 overall pick in the NFL Draft from the Titans. The Jets had called every team from 15 down to try and get a third first-round pick so they could take former Florida State defensive end Jermaine Johnson.

The emotion Douglas showed was real. The Jets had Johnson as one of the top eight on their board, consider him the most pro-ready pass rusher in the draft and were ecstatic they were able to get him. Johnson appreciated the effort the Jets put in and believed they have in him. He doesn't want to let them down.

"It meant everything," Johnson said. "This was my first pick and I know how these guys feel about me in the building. To hear they were trying to trade for me from pick 15 all the way up until 26 it means the world. It means I know I'm wanted, and I'm loved. Everyone makes me feel that way."

"It makes it that much easier for me to give everything I have to this organization."

Getting the 6-5, 254-pound Johnson was the capper to what the Jets believe could be a transformational day for the franchise.

They drafted cornerback Sauce Gardner with the fourth pick, receiver Garret Wilson at 10 and dealt second, third and fourth-round picks to climb for Johnson.

It was somewhat fitting what the Jets had to do to get Johnson, since his path to the NFL was anything but conventional.

Johnson, 23, was academically ineligible to play Division I football coming out of Eden Prairie High School in Minnesota. Johnson attended Independence Community College in Kansas for two years and was featured on the Netflix series "Last Chance U."

Salah pleads with Becton: Saleh made a plea for Mekhi Becton to join the Jets for their voluntary workouts.

Saleh looked directly into the camera as if he was speaking directly to Becton, who has been working out in Dallas as he awaits the birth of his first child.

"We'd love you back here, buddy," Saleh said. "We'll take care of you. No, I know he's working."

Becton played just one game last season after fracturing his kneecap in Week 1. The big offensive tackle was originally supposed to be out 4-8 weeks, but he ended up missing the remainder of the season.

This is an important offseason for the 6-7 Becton, who reportedly weighed more than 400 pounds last season. The Jets want to see Becton come back in better shape. The team will be on the field for the first time on Monday. Their OTAs officially get underway on May 23 with mandatory mini-camp in June.

Strong Island: TE Jeremy Ruckert became the latest Long Island product to land on the Jets' roster when they drafted him in the third round. The Lindenhurst native joins guard Greg Van Roten (Rockville Centre/Long Beach), safety Elijah Riley (Port Jefferson) and offensive tackle Greg Senat (Elmont). Guard Dan Feeney is an adopted Long Islander after becoming a fan favorite for chugging beers and smashing cans on his head during the Islanders' playoff run two years ago.

team like Cincinnati.

But for a team that didn't win a single game last season when opponents scored 25 or more points, it's a luxury.

The Patriots did get Mac some more obvious assistance with their second-round pick, climbing four spots to No. 50 to take Baylor wide receiver Tyquan Thornton, who clocked the fastest 40-yard dash time of any receiver at the NFL Combine (4.28 seconds).

Thornton could be a game-breaker, New England's answer to Tyreek Hill, or another indicator of a broken wide receiver evaluation methodology.

The Patriots' futility drafting receivers is well documented, and this pick will be highly scrutinized because there were more recognizable receivers and better traditional fits available than the ready Thornton.

Three of the next four teams took wide receivers — Steelers (George Pickens), Colts (Alec Pierce), and Chiefs, who swapped picks with the Patriots, selected Sky Moore with New England's original second-rounder (No. 54).

In the third round, the Patriots took cornerback and punt/kick returner extraordinaire Marcus Jones, a speedy, gritty, electric player who can play in all three phases. Love the pick.

The Patriots also traded another third-rounder to Carolina, replacing the 2023 third-rounder they sent to Miami to acquire wide receiver DeVante Parker, their highest-profile offseason addition.

On Saturday, the Patriots doubled up at corner with Jack Jones of Arizona State and took an intriguing, high-upside running back in Pierre Strong, who could project into the third-down back role, in the fourth round. Let's ignore the head-shaking pick of quarterback Bailey Zappe.

The Patriots are back to their old ways. Time will tell if they work without Brady. Or if they're fooling themselves in Foxborough by trusting the process.

NFL DRAFT

3 players with local ties picked

By Dom Amore

Hartford Courant

The Patriots, who stockpiled late picks with trades during the NFL Draft, chose former Darien High lineman Andrew Stueber in the 7th round on Saturday.

Stueber, 6 feet 7 and 338 pounds, played at Michigan from 2017-2021, playing in 34 games starting all 14 last season as a grad student. He was a first-team All-Big Ten selection, and a second team All-American and twice an academic All-Big Ten. He played both guard and tackle and graded out as one of the top pass-protectors in FBS football. He helped Darien win state championships in 2015 and 16.

The Patriots focused on the offensive line in the draft taking three with their 10 picks, starting with Cole Strange of Tennessee-Chattanooga in the first round, center Chasen Hines from LSU in the sixth, and then Stueber, pick No. 245. Earlier in the seventh round, at No. 239, the Colts chose Yale defensive back Rodney Thomas, the only Ivy League player chosen.

Thomas, 6-1 and 196, recorded 50 tackles, one for a loss, two interceptions and 11 pass break-ups in 10 games last season. He also had a 48-yard kick return score against Cornell in his final collegiate season.

UConn defensive tackle Travis Jones was picked in the third round by the Ravens late Friday.

Dom Amore can be reached at damore@courant.com

Giants

from Page 1

prospect, though. He is a star, a Los Angeles native eager to embrace the Big Apple, familiar already with the big city from frequent visits the past two years.

He gives off Odell Beckham Jr.-like vibes as a playmaker with an electric personality whose name and face could quickly be on billboards and marquees in this area, if not around the country.

He is so natural on camera, he could host his own national television talk show right now. He had no voice for Saturday's big introduction because he's been celebrating his special week.

"I would say the music has just been hitting differently," he said. "So that's why my voice is gone, because I've been singing along and singing my heart out."

It is well-documented that some teams were turned off by Thibodeaux's overconfidence, perceptions (right or wrong) about his work ethic, and his numerous off-field endeavors.

Some evaluators have told the Daily News they specifically have concerns about Thibodeaux keeping his focus on football in New York. Two pass rushers went ahead of him to the Jaguars and Lions. The Jets, with a head coach who loves pass rushers, passed on him for a corner.

Schoen is taking some risk by staking his early reputation on such a polarizing player.

"He's a very outgoing individual," the GM admitted on Thursday. "He's got a lot of personality."

That said, Thibodeaux showed Saturday why the Giants felt convinced he could handle this: He is self-aware. And while he is going to be himself, he knows his actions must speak louder.

SCOREBOARD

NBA

PLAYOFF SCHEDULE

EAST CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND

(Best-of-7; x-if necessary)

#1 Miami 4, #8 Atlanta 1

#2 Boston 4, #7 Brooklyn 0

#3 Milwaukee 4, #6 Chicago 1

#4 Philadelphia 4, #5 Toronto 2

EAST CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

#1 Miami vs. #4 Philadelphia

Mondays at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday: at Miami, 7:30 p.m.

Friday: at Philadelphia, 7 p.m.

May 8: at Philadelphia, 8 p.m.

x-May 10: at Miami, TBD

x-May 12: at Philadelphia, TBD

x-May 15: at Miami, TBD

#2 Boston vs. #3 Milwaukee

Sunday: at Boston, 1 p.m.

Tuesday: at Boston, TBD

May 7: at Milwaukee, TBD

x-May 11: at Boston, TBD

x-May 13: at Milwaukee, TBD

x-May 15: at Boston, TBD

WEST CONFERENCE FIRST ROUND

#1 Phoenix 4, #8 New Orleans 2

#2 Memphis 4, #7 Minnesota 2

#3 Golden State 4, #6 Denver 1

#4 Dallas 4, #5 Utah 2

WEST CONFERENCE SEMIFINALS

#1 Phoenix vs. #4 Dallas

Mondays at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Wednesday: at Phoenix, 10 p.m.

Friday: at Dallas, 9:30 p.m.

May 7: at Golden State, 8:30 p.m.

May 9: at Golden State, 10 p.m.

x-May 11: at Memphis, 8 p.m.

x-May 13: at Golden State, TBD

x-May 15: at Memphis, TBD

TENNIS

ATP BMW OPEN BY AMERICAN EXPRESS

At MTTC Iphitos, Munich, Red-clay-out

MEN'S SINGLES, SEMIFINALS

#8Botic Van de Zandschulp d.

#7Miomir Kecmanovic, 2-6, 6-4, 6-4.

Hulger Rune d. Oscar Otte, 6-4, 6-4.

MUTUA MADRID OPEN

At Caja Magica, Madrid,

Red clay-outdoors

MEN'S SINGLES, QUALIFICATION

ROUND OF 64

Alejandro Moro Canas d.

Francisco Cerundolo, 6-0, 6-4.

Maxime Cressy d.

Daniel Rincon, 6-3, 6-4.

Marton Fucsovics d.

Daniel Merida Aguilar, 6-4, 6-3.

Ugo Humbert d.

Pablo Andujar, 6-4, 6-2.

Lorenzo Musetti d.

Yoshihito Nishioka, 7-5, 6-3.

Federico Coria d.

Denis Kudla, 6-2, 6-2.

Benoit Paire d.

Brandon Nakashima, 6-0, 3-6, 6-3.

Kwon Soon Woo d.

Juncheng Shang, 6-7, 6-3, 6-4.

Mackenzie McDonald d.

Joao Sousa, 6-2, 3-6, 6-4.

Roberto Carballes Baena, d.

Alex Molcan, 7-5, 6-4.

Dusan Lajovic, d.

Adrian Mannarino, 6-4, 6-2.

Hugo Dellien d. Hugo Gaston, 6-1, 6-2.

David Goffin d. Jiri Vesely, 6-3, 7-6.

Alejandro Tabio d.

Marcos Giron, 6-3, 7-5.

WOMEN'S SINGLES, ROUND OF 32

Simona Halep d.

#2Paula Badosa, 6-3, 6-1.

#8Ons Jabeur d.

Varvara Gracheva, 7-5, 0-6, 6-4.

Karolina Muchova, 6-3, 4-6, 7-5.

#15Victoria Azarenka d.

Tamara Zidansek, 3-6, 6-1, 6-3.

Ekaterina Alexandrova d.

Nuria Parrizas Diaz, 6-4, 7-5.

Marie Bouzkova d.

Dayana Yastremska, 3-6, 7-6(3), 6-1.

Amanda Anisimova d.

Petra Martic, 3-6, 6-3, 6-2.

ATP MILLENNIUM ESTORIL OPEN

At Clube de Tenis do Estoril,

Estoril, Portugal, Red clay-outdoors

MEN'S SINGLES, SEMIFINALS

Sebastian Baez d.

#6Albert Ramos-Vinolas, 6-3, 6-7(7), 6-0.

#5Frances Tiafoe d.

#8Sebastian Korda, 4-6, 7-6(2), 6-4.

AUTO RACING

NASCAR CUP SERIES

MANUFACTURERS STANDINGS

RK MAKE PTS PB W

1 Chevrolet 371-6

2 Toyota 342 -29 2

3 Ford 337 -34 2

DRIVER POINT STANDINGS

DRIVER W T5 T10 PTS

Chase Elliott 0 1 7 368

Ryan Blaney 0 4 6 347

William Byron 2 4 4 334

Kyle Busch 1 3 7 312

Alex Bowman 1 2 6 309

Joey Logano 0 3 5 308

Kyle Larson 1 5 5 299

Martin Truex, Jr. 0 2 5 298

Ross Chastain 2 6 6 292

Aric Almirola 0 1 4 265

Kevin Harvick 0 1 4 252

Chase Briscoe 1 2 3 246

Austin Dillon 0 3 5 245

Christopher Bell 0 1 4 243

Tyler Reddick 0 3 4 242

Austin Cindric 1 1 2 238

Erik Jones 0 1 3 231

Kurt Busch 0 2 4 218

Daniel Suarez 0 2 3 218

Chris Buescher 0 0 2 196

Bubba Wallace 0 1 1 193

Justin Haley 0 0 0 183

Michael McDowell 0 0 3 181

Denny Hamlin 1 1 1 178

Ty Dillon 0 0 1 170

Cole Custer 0 0 0 167

Todd Gilliland 0 0 0 142

Corey LaJoie 0 1 1 140

Brad Keselowski 0 0 1 132

Harrison Burton 0 0 0 130

Ricky Stenhouse, Jr. 0 0 1 128

Cody Ware 0 0 0 88

ODDS

MLB

SUNDAY

NATIONAL LEAGUE

FAVORITE LINE UNDERDOG Line

San Diego -191 at Pittsburgh +165

at Milwaukee -204 Chicago Cubs +173

at St. Louis -192 Arizona +168

at Colorado -144 Cincinnati +122

at San Fran. -172 Washington +153

at NY METS -172 Philadelphia +153

AMERICAN LEAGUE

Boston -157 at Baltimore +138

at Tampa Bay off Minnesota off

at Toronto -147 Houston +128

LA Angels off at Chi. Whi. Sox off

NY Yankees -182 at Kan. City +160

Cleveland -112 at Oakland -107

INTERLEAGUE

at Miami -120 Seattle +100

at Texas -112 Atlanta +108

at LA Dodgers -350 Detroit +280

NBA

SUNDAY

FAVORITE LINE O/U UNDERDOG

at Boston 4 1/2 (21) Milwaukee

Golden State 2 (220%) at Memphis

NHL

SUNDAY

FAVORITE LINE UNDERDOG Line

at Winnipeg -210 Seattle +172

For the latest odds, go to FanDuel Sportsbook, <https://sportsbook.fanduel.com/>

BASEBALL**LATE FRIDAY****Yankees,
4 homers
hammer
Royals**

Associated Press

Aaron Judge, Giancarlo Stanton, Anthony Rizzo and Gleyber Torres all homered and the New York Yankees won their seventh in a row, beating the Royals 12-2 Friday night in a rain-shortened game in Kansas City.

The game was called after eight innings.

New York took a 3-2 lead into the seventh before scoring four runs, three on Judge's homer. Torres connected for a two-run drive during a five-run eighth.

"It was a close game," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said. "We get out of the gates with three runs, but it was 3-2 going into the seventh. There were some really good at-bats that set that up."

Nestor Cortes (1-0) allowed one earned run and eight hits in five innings.

"For the first two innings they were on my stuff," Cortes said. Obviously you have to make adjustments. I started attacking the outside part of the plate more, and it gave me better results."

The Yankees wasted little time in putting pressure on Kris Bubic (0-2). D.J. LeMahieu hit a leadoff double to the wall in right field and Judge lined out to center before Rizzo homered to center.

Mets 3, Phillies 0: At Philadelphia, Tylor Megill and the New York Mets bullpen kept throwing and throwing, the crowd growing louder with every toss. A 159-pitch gem, it was. Megill and four relievers combined on the first no-hitter of the Major League Baseball season, teaming up to lead the Mets over the Philadelphia Phillies 3-0 Friday night.

"Just a really fun team moment," said Mets first baseman Pete Alonso, who homered. "This is one of my all-time highlights, because, like, how often do you see a no-hitter? It's like seeing a white buffalo or a unicorn."

Red Sox 3, Orioles 1: At Baltimore, Christian Arroyo ended Boston's long-ball drought with a two-run shot, and Rich Hill combined with four relievers on a five-hitter to help the Red Sox win. Arroyo hit his first homer of the season in the second inning to provide the Red Sox with all the offense they needed to saddle the Orioles with their fifth straight defeat.

REGIONAL DIGEST**UConn rips off
5th straight with
14-7 win at Butler**

Staff report

Casey Dana had four hits, including a home run, as the UConn baseball team rolled to its fifth straight win with a 14-7 victory at Butler in a Big East Conference game at Indianapolis. The Huskies (36-8, 10-1) have won 17 of 18.

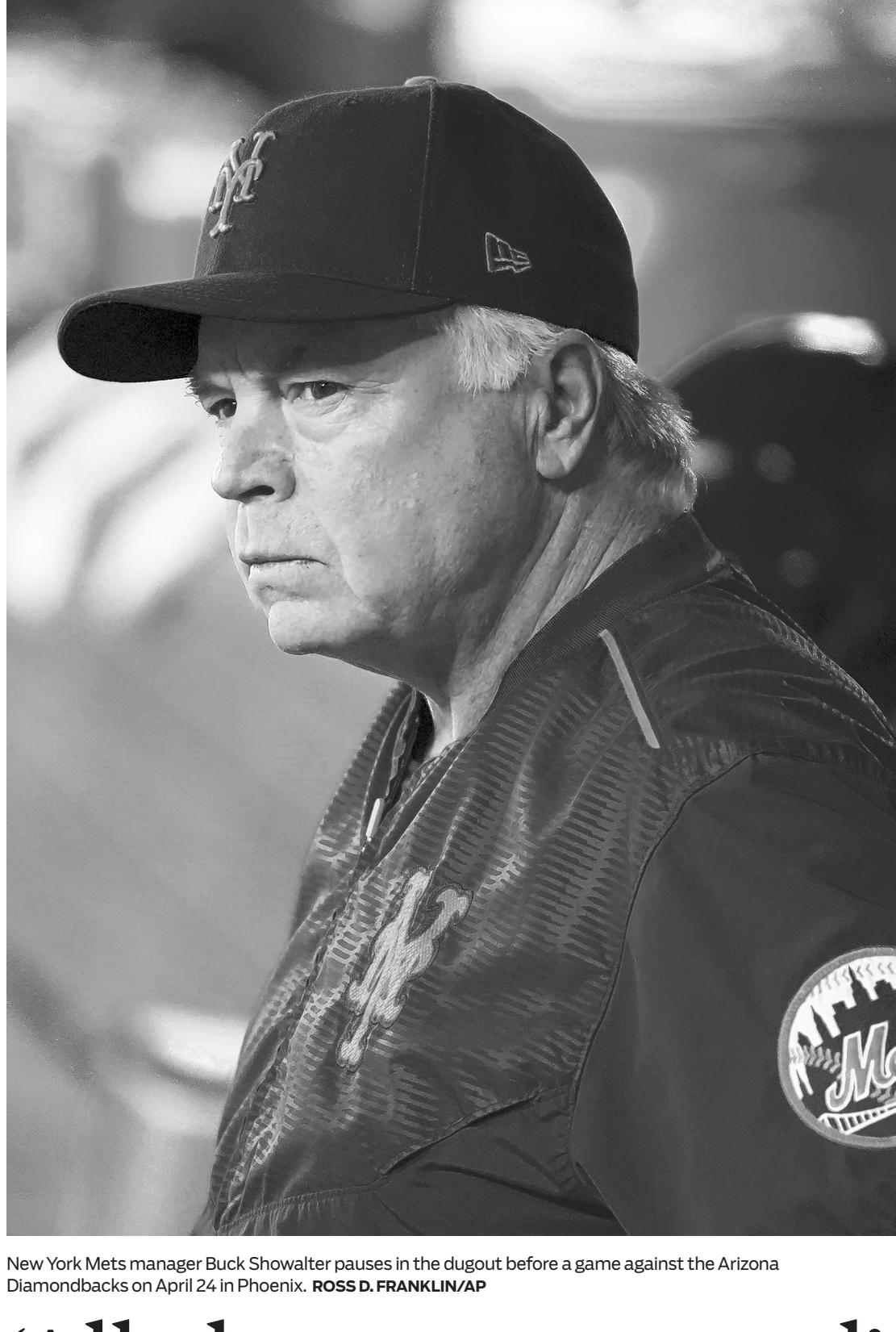
UConn jumped out to a 4-0 lead in the first on RBI singles by Dana and Zach Bushling and a two-run error by the Bulldogs. A five-run third put the game away. Pat Gallagher went 6 1/3 for the Huskies in improving to 7-3. The teams conclude the three-game set on Sunday.

**Yard Goats defeat
Senators, 4-2**

The Hartford Yard Goats snapped a tie with single runs in the eighth and ninth innings to defeat the Harrisburg Senators 4-2 in an Eastern League game at Harrisburg, Pa.

With the score tied at 1-1, Ezequiel Tovar homered for a 2-1 Hartfod lead. The Senators tied it in the bottom of the inning before the Yard Goats went back ahead on sacrifice flies by Aaron Schunk in the eighth and Michael Toglia in the ninth.

Blair Calvo got the win in relief and Nick Kennedy pitched a scoreless ninth for his fourth save.

METS

New York Mets manager Buck Showalter pauses in the dugout before a game against the Arizona Diamondbacks on April 24 in Phoenix. ROSS D. FRANKLIN/AP

'All about command'

Mets' Showalter talks about the remarkable state of MLB pitching

By Bill Madden
Baseball Columnist

NEW YORK — We are three weeks into the season and in case you haven't noticed there are some phenomenal things happening with the pitching in baseball.

For one thing, according to the Elias Bureau, the average 15.2 hits per game through the first 22 days of the season are the lowest since 14.8 in 1910!

There are any number of factors being thrown around for this pitching dominance — the abbreviated spring training, the customary unseasonable April weather, the increase of pitchers on the rosters, humidors for the baseballs in all the clubhouses, to name four — but going into the weekend the composite pitchers' ERA of 3.69 was the lowest since 1991 and their 1.61 strikeouts-to-walks ratio is the lowest since 1997 (1.60).

Certainly, the number of pitchers at each manager's disposal — last week MLB and the Players Association agreed to extend the 14-pitcher limit on the rosters to May 29 — has had a significant effect, especially in the later innings (7-9) where the batting average of .224 going into the

weekend was the lowest ever. So far this year the 9.32 average number of pitchers in a game is an all-time high. As Sports Illustrated's Tom Verducci noted this past week, the Nationals' Juan Soto faced 46 different pitchers in his first 83 plate appearances. So, yes, multiple different looks are hazardous to a batter's average.

Going into the weekend, both the Yankees and Mets sported the best records in their leagues, and it wasn't any secret as to why: Pitching. The Yankees' 2.92 ERA was second in the majors, their 1.15 WHIP eighth. As for the Mets, who were third in the majors in ERA (2.93) and second in WHIP (1.04), Buck Showalter, talking about his starting pitchers in particular, summed up their early success with one word: Command. That was the first thing he noticed about Tyler Megill and David Peterson when he saw them for the first time this spring.

"They could both command," Showalter said the other day, "and to me that's the most important thing about pitching. I knew we had something." And left unsaid, he knew he didn't have to worry quite as much as to when Jacob deGrom was going to be back.

To Showalter's point, the Mets' 3.7 strikeouts-to-walks ratio was second only in the majors to the Dodgers' 3.8. And through their

first 18 starts, the Mets rotation had issued only 27 walks in 106 innings, including just three by Megill in his first four starts.

"You can have good stuff but it's no good unless you have command. Orel Hershiser once said that if you can command one pitch you can get by in a game and if command two pitches you're going to be a very good pitcher and if can command three pitches you're dominant," Showalter continued. "It's all about command which is what we constantly emphasize with our guys."

And don't talk to Showalter about velocity. As far as he's concerned you can leave the velo to those one-inning late relievers. If there is one thing that galls him it's this (analytically driven) obsession with velo in today's baseball that too often comes at the expense of teaching young pitchers command of their secondary pitches in the minors after they come out of the draft.

"Just look at this year's upcoming draft," Showalter said. "It's been turned upside down by all the injuries to the top pitchers. They start these kids at 13 years old building up their velo so they can get the big money in the draft and this is what happens. It just seems the criteria with pitchers today is 'who is going to get back the fastest?' rather than teaching them secondary pitches."

ORIOLES 2, RED SOX 1 10 INNINGS**Eovaldi's 7 scoreless innings not enough**

Boston Globe

of the year for Bogaerts.

The early surge, however, proved a mirage. The Red Sox did not score again against Watkins over his 4 2/3 innings. But thanks to Red Sox starter Nate Eovaldi, the team's inability to sustain offensive pressure proved irrelevant.

Eovaldi attacked the Orioles with a filthy first-inning array of pitches, striking out the side on 16 pitches — two of the punchouts coming on splitters, one on a 98 mph fastball. That dazzling opening stanza proved a fitting prelude to an overpowering outing.

Eovaldi unleashed his full five-pitch arsenal in an onslaught that left the Baltimore batters shaking their heads. His 96-98 mph fastball set up an anvil of a splitter (accountable for seven of his 16 swings and misses), two break-

ing balls — a slider that wiped out righties and a curveball that froze lefties — along with an occasional cutter.

The result? Mastery. Eovaldi allowed neither hit nor walk through the first five innings, the only runner to that point coming on a Bogaerts throwing error that permitted Austin Hays to reach while leading off the bottom of the second.

While the Orioles did connect for occasional hard contact, Red Sox defenders invariably ran down their threats — most notably when Kiké Hernández raced to the fence in right-center to reel in a 396-foot drive by Tyler Nevin to end the second.

But with two outs in the sixth, Orioles leadoff hitter Cedric Mullins got on top of a 97 mph fastball

YANKEES 3, ROYALS 0**Yankees
win 8th
game in
a row**

Cole pitches 6 shutout
innings against Royals

Associated Press

KANSAS CITY, MO. — Gerrit Cole pitched six sharp innings, the Yankees resorted to manufacturing runs against sloppy Kansas City pitching, and New York went beat the Royals 3-0 Saturday night for its eighth straight win.

Cole (2-0) allowed five hits and two walks while striking out six in another dominant start at Kauffman Stadium. The Cy Young runner-up a year ago has allowed only two earned runs in 21 1/3 innings in the pitcher-friendly ballpark.

Aroldis Chapman worked a perfect ninth for his fifth save, helping the Yankees improve to 15-6 — just the fifth time since 1959 that the 27-time World Series champions have won at least 15 of their first 21 games.

Normally a power-hitting team, the Yankees saw Gleyber Torres and Isiah Kiner-Falefa manage sacrifice flies off Carlos Hernandez (0-1). New York had 18 homers in its previous seven games.

Hernandez walked five of the first 15 batters he faced and, at one point, had thrown more balls (37) than strikes (36). But the right-hander limited the damage against a lineup that loves to inflict it.

Hernandez worked around a walk in the first, then loaded the bases with nobody out in the second but allowed just one run thanks to a double play and a groundout. Hernandez loaded them again with one out in the third, gave up a sacrifice fly, then watched Salvador Perez throw out Anthony Rizzo at third base to end the inning.

The Yankees also drew a leadoff walk in the fourth and scored on another sacrifice fly, giving them a 3-0 lead.

With Cole on the mound, that's usually enough.

He would have set down the first eight batters he faced if not for Kiner-Falefa's miscue at shortstop, ending the Yankees' 13-game errorless streak.

Cole's command escaped him briefly in the third, but he got Nick Lopez to fly out to leave the bases loaded.

And in the fourth, Cole froze Bobby Witt Jr. and Kyle Isbel to strand runners on second and third.

Miguel Castro and Clay Holmes each pitched a scoreless inning before Chapman finished things off.

Judge me not: Yankees slugger Aaron Judge got his scheduled day off Saturday, even though he's hit three homers in his last four games and five in his last seven. Judge also has hit safely in nine of his last 10 with 12 RBIs over that span.

"It's always hard to have him out," Yankees manager Aaron Boone said, "but I was going to be pretty disciplined about it with another day game (Sunday) after a night game and then going to the turf in Toronto." ... Yankees C Ben Rortvedt (right oblique) had a recent exam that showed no trace of the strain he sustained in February, though his return date is still unclear. "He's doing well and over the injury now," Boone said.

and broke his team's 0-for-18 spell, lining a ball down the left field line for a double.

On a night when Eovaldi had been cruising, Mullins's appearance in scoring position offered the Red Sox an uncomfortable reminder: While Eovaldi's dominance had permitted a sense of comfort, the team's ongoing April offensive ineptitude had left it clinging to just a 1-0 advantage.

Eovaldi made that edge hold in the sixth by eliciting an inning-ending groundout by Anthony Santander to preserve his one-run lead.

But after the Sox stranded runners on the corners in the top of the seventh, Baltimore amassed its first sustained rally in the bottom of the frame with back-to-back singles against the Sox ace.

BASEBALL**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

| EAST | W | L | PCT | GB | WCGB | L10 | STR | HOME | AWAY |
|-------------|----|----|------|-------|-------|-----|-----|------|------|
| New York | 14 | 6 | .700 | — | — | 9-1 | W-7 | 10-3 | 4-3 |
| Toronto | 14 | 8 | .636 | 1 | — | 7-3 | W-1 | 8-4 | 6-4 |
| Tampa Bay | 12 | 9 | .571 | 2 1/2 | — | 7-3 | L-1 | 9-6 | 3-3 |
| Boston | 9 | 12 | .429 | 5 1/2 | 3 | 3-7 | W-1 | 3-4 | 6-8 |
| Baltimore | 6 | 14 | .300 | 8 | 5 1/2 | 3-7 | L-5 | 3-4 | 3-10 |
| CENTRAL | W | L | PCT | GB | WCGB | L10 | STR | HOME | AWAY |
| Minnesota | 12 | 9 | .571 | — | — | 8-2 | W-1 | 8-4 | 4-5 |
| Cleveland | 9 | 12 | .429 | 3 | 3 | 3-7 | W-2 | 3-3 | 6-9 |
| Chicago | 8 | 12 | .400 | 3 1/2 | 3 1/2 | 2-8 | W-1 | 6-5 | 2-7 |
| Kansas City | 7 | 11 | .389 | 3 1/2 | 3 1/2 | 4-6 | L-1 | 5-6 | 2-5 |
| Detroit | 6 | 13 | .316 | 5 | 5 | 2-8 | L-6 | 4-8 | 2-5 |
| WEST | W | L | PCT | GB | WCGB | L10 | STR | HOME | AWAY |
| Los Angeles | 14 | 8 | .636 | — | — | 7-3 | L-1 | 8-5 | 6-3 |
| Houston | 11 | 10 | .524 | 2 1/2 | 1 | 5-5 | L-1 | 2-4 | 9-6 |
| Seattle | 11 | 10 | .524 | 2 1/2 | 1 | 5-5 | L-4 | 7-2 | 4-8 |
| Oakland | 10 | 11 | .476 | 3 1/2 | 2 | 4-6 | L-2 | 4-5 | 6-6 |
| Texas | 7 | 14 | .333 | 6 1/2 | 5 | 5-5 | W-1 | 3-9 | 4-5 |

BOX SCORES**MINNESOTA 9, TAMPA BAY 1**

| Minnesota | AB | R | H | BI | SO | Avg |
|---------------|-----------|----------|-----------|----------|------------|-----|
| Polanco 2b | 5 | 1 | 0 | 1 | .181 | |
| Correa ss | 5 | 2 | 3 | 1 | .243 | |
| Gordon ss | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .235 | |
| Garlick lf | 3 | 2 | 2 | 3 | .100 | |
| Kepler rf | 2 | 1 | 2 | 3 | .058 | |
| Urshela 3b | 5 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .179 | |
| Sanchez dh | 5 | 1 | 1 | 0 | .200 | |
| Sano 1b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .093 | |
| Arraez 1b | 2 | 0 | 1 | 0 | .317 | |
| Jeffers c | 5 | 0 | 2 | 1 | .216 | |
| Celestino cf | 4 | 1 | 0 | 1 | .211 | |
| Larnach rf-lf | 4 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .265 | |
| TOTALS | 42 | 9 | 14 | 9 | .14 | |
| Tampa Bay | AB | R | H | BI | SO | Avg |
| B.Lowe 2b | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .177 | |
| Franco ss | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | .313 | |
| Diaz 1b | 2 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .298 | |
| J.Lowe rf | 3 | 0 | 1 | 0 | .183 | |
| Arrozarena lf | 4 | 0 | 1 | 0 | .195 | |
| Kiermaier cf | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .200 | |
| a-Ramirez ph | 1 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .345 | |
| Margot df | 4 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .125 | |
| Walls 3b | 3 | 1 | 1 | 2 | .256 | |
| Zunino c | 3 | 0 | 0 | 0 | .093 | |
| TOTALS | 31 | 1 | 4 | 1 | .11 | |

Minnesota 100 002 204 — 9 14 0

Tampa Bay 100 000 000 — 1 4

a-struck out for Kiermaier in the 9th.

E: Walls (4). LOB: Minnesota 9, Tampa Bay 6. 2B: Larnach (6), Jeffers (4), Polanco (3), Sanchez (4), Lowe (2).

HR: Garlick 2 (3), off McLanahan; Kepler (5), off Guerra; Walls (1), off Archer.

RBIs: Garlick (3), Larnach (6), Kepler (3)(11), Correa (8), Jeffers (5), Walls (2).

Runners left in scoring position: Minnesota 5(Polanco), Larnach 2, Garlick, Celestino); Tampa Bay 3(Arozarena 3).

RISP: Minnesota 6for 13; Tampa Bay 0for 2.

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NATIONAL SPORTS REPORT

SHORTS

Wings fire Blashill after 7 seasons

The Red Wings fired Jeff Blashill on Saturday, moving on from the coach tabbed to guide the storied NHL franchise through a long rebuilding process. GM Steve Yzerman said the team was not renewing the contracts of Blashill, assistant Doug Houda and goaltending coach Jeff Salajko. Blashill spent the past seven seasons behind the bench for the Red Wings, who have missed the playoffs the past six seasons while transitioning into a youth movement. They last qualified for the postseason in 2015-16 when they lost in the first round. The previous regime led by Stanley Cup-winning GM Ken Holland hired Blashill as Mike Babcock's replacement, a natural selection given his reputation of developing young talent. Blashill has been with the organization for 11 years, including one season as an assistant on Babcock's staff and three as coach of the American Hockey League's Grand Rapids Griffins. The Red Wings went 204-261-72 with Blashill at the helm. That .447 points percentage is second-worst in the league since then, not counting the expansion Kraken that debuted this season.



Hall of Fame coach Stringer retires



C. Vivian Stringer has been a trailblazer, serving as a role model to many Black coaches and players throughout her 50-year career. The Hall of Fame coach announced her retirement on Saturday. She finished with 1,055 wins — fourth all-time among Division I women's basketball coaches behind Tara VanDerveer, Geno Auriemma and Pat Summitt. Stringer made four Final Four appearances and reached the NCAA Tournament 28 times while leading Cheyney State, Iowa and Rutgers. She was the first coach in men's or women's basketball to take three different teams to the national semifinals. Stringer was emotional when she talked to her team Friday night on a Zoom call. "My life has been defined by coaching and I've been on this journey for over five decades," she said in a statement. "It is rare that someone gets to do what they love for this long and I have been fortunate to do that." One of the many coaches who Stringer influenced is South Carolina's Dawn Staley, who won her second national championship on April 3. "Coach Stringer represents hope for us," Staley said in 2018.

Madrid clinches Spanish league title



Madrid, it was fitting it didn't need its best players to win the Spanish league. Using its backups ahead of the Champions League semifinals, Madrid earned a record-extending 35th Liga title with a 4-0 home win over Espanyol on Saturday. Players and coaches celebrated with the crowd at Santiago Bernabéu Stadium long after the match ended. On Wednesday, Madrid is back at the Bernabéu to host Manchester City in the second leg of the Champions League semifinals. Madrid lost 4-3 in the first match in England. "We know we have an important match ahead of us, but today we have to celebrate," said Brazilian veteran Marcelo, who reached a milestone with his 24th career title with Madrid, the most in the club's history. "We have to enjoy it, this could help us on Wednesday," said Carlo Ancelotti, pictured, who became the first coach to lift trophies in the top five European leagues. The Italian manager won with AC Milan in Serie A, Chelsea in the English Premier League, Paris Saint-Germain in Ligue 1, and Bayern Munich in the Bundesliga. —AP

NBA PLAYOFFS

Healthy Warriors ready for Grizzlies

Associated Press

Splash Brothers Stephen Curry and Klay Thompson have the Warriors in their seventh Western Conference semifinal in 10 seasons, and both finally are as healthy as they've been since reaching five straight NBA Finals from 2015-19.

That remarkable run started when the Warriors rallied from a 2-1 deficit in the second round against the Grizzlies in 2015, marking a big switch in the direction for both franchises.

Ja Morant has the rebuilt Grizzlies back in the West semis for the first time in seven years. The dynamic guard leads a young, brash and deep roster that edged out Golden State for the No. 2 seed in the Western Conference with the NBA's best record behind only the Suns.

And the Grizzlies can't wait to see how it matches up with the veteran-led, playoff-tested Warriors.

"We feel like we are one of the best backcourts in the league as well," Morant said. "So, going into any matchup, we're taking ourselves over anybody. We're very confident. We put in the work."

The third-seeded Warriors, rested with three days off since ousting the Nuggets on Wednesday night, know what they want starting Sunday afternoon in Game 1.

"We've been around the block, and we're trying to get back to the mountaintop and understand the opportunity in front of us," Curry said Saturday before the Warriors left San Francisco.

The last time these teams met on the playoff stage in 2015, the Grizzlies jumped out to a 2-1 lead. The Warriors found their turning point after that and went on to win the series in six games on their way to capturing the franchise's first championship in 40 years.

Warriors coach Steve Kerr calls this a "role reversal" with the Warriors the younger team then and now the more experienced group with four main players still around from that title squad. And, yes, Kerr believes post-season runs help teams forge an identity.

"Memphis is in a similar boat now gaining that experience, feeling what it's like to be on the road and trailing in the fourth quarter, and they've done a really good job of advancing and getting to this stage and now it continues," Kerr said. "The more experience you get, the better."

'There's hope' for Embiid: The best that 76ers coach Doc Rivers could offer Saturday about Joel Embiid's possible availability for the Eastern Conference semifinal series against the Heat was a two-word answer.

"There's hope," Rivers said.

For now, the 76ers will cling to that.

The 76ers and Heat both hit the practice floor Saturday to begin the process of adjusting for a playoff series that won't have Embiid at the start — at minimum. Embiid, the NBA's scoring champion and an MVP finalist this season, has a right orbital fracture and a mild concussion, injuries that were suffered Thursday in a first-round series-clincher at Toronto and were announced Friday night.

Game 1 is Monday in Miami. And the 76ers will be without their center who averaged 30 points per game this season.

Suns fined for injury reporting rules: The NBA fined the Suns \$25,000 on Saturday for violating injury reporting rules by failing to disclose guard Devin Booker's participation status in an accurate and timely manner before Game 6 of the first-round playoff series against the Pelicans.

Booker returned from a strained right hamstring to help the Suns beat the Pelicans 115-109 on Thursday night in New Orleans in the series-ending game.

SUNDAY'S GAMES

Celtics vs. Bucks

Where, time, TV: Boston; 1 p.m. EDT; ABC.

Bottom line: The Celtics host the Bucks to start the Eastern Conference second round. The Celtics and Bucks tied the regular season series 2-2. The Bucks won the last regular season matchup 127-121 on April 7. Jue Holiday led the Bucks with 29 points, and Marcus Smart led the Celtics with 29 points.

Top performers: Jaylen Brown is averaging 24.7 points over the last 10 games for the Celtics. Holiday is averaging 15.2 points and 4.4 rebounds while shooting 44.4% over the past 10 games for the Bucks.

Grizzlies vs. Warriors

Where, time, TV: Memphis; 3:30 p.m. EDT; ABC.

Bottom line: The Grizzlies host the Warriors to start the Western Conference second round. The Grizzlies went 3-1 against the Warriors during the regular season. The Grizzlies won the last regular season meeting 123-95 on March 29 led by 22 points from Desmond Bane, while Jordan Poole scored 25 points for the Warriors.

Top performers: Ja Morant is averaging 27.4 points, 5.7 rebounds and 6.7 assists over the last 10 games for the Grizzlies. Klay Thompson is averaging 27.9 points and 3.9 rebounds while shooting 51.8% over the last 10 games for the Warriors.



LSU kicker Cade York (36) boots a field goal during the second quarter of a game against Auburn on Oct. 31, 2020, in Auburn, Ala. The Browns selected York in the fourth round (124th overall) of the NFL draft. **BUTCH DILL/AP**

NFL DRAFT

Best foot forward

Kickers and running backs take the spotlight on Day 3

By Barry Wilner

Associated Press

LAS VEGAS — Running backs and kickers — kickers? — were a focus in the fourth round of the NFL draft on Saturday.

Two punters and a placekicker went as the final day of selections began before any more quarterbacks were taken as most of the 32 NFL teams decided to pass on passers in what has been deemed a weak crop. So maybe it shouldn't be surprising that LSU placekicker Cade York went to the Browns at No. 124 overall, followed by Penn State punter Jordan Stout six spots later to the Ravens. At No. 133 to the Buccaneers it was punter Jake Camarda of Georgia — four spots before the fifth quarterback in total, Western Kentucky's Bailey Zapke, headed to the Patriots.

Of course, it can't be ignored that the Patriots once had some luck with a late-round QB. What was his name?

"With the draft, it's always a tossup, but I did have a good idea that I was going to be a Raven," said Stout, who will compete with veteran Sam Koch.

"I'm extremely excited about it." "One big thing for me is that I know special teams is always very successful with the Ravens."

True. Justin Tucker has been the most accurate placekicker in NFL history, and Koch has been a mainstay in Baltimore since 2006.

The Browns saw in York exactly what every team wants in a kicker with a game on the line: utter confidence.

"I believe that I am the best kicker in this draft because I have been able to make big kicks in big situations," he said. "I have been put out for a lot of long field goals in tough situations, and I still brought out good results in it. I think that is what makes me the best."

Many scouts considered Camarda the best punter in the nation. He was the 11th player selected from the national champs.

"I think it has certainly prepared me for the next level, playing at Georgia for four years, playing in every single biggest game you can possibly imagine," Camarda noted. "The Bucs certainly are a team that's looking to make a big run."

"I definitely think that's something with my history, playing in those big games and big moments, I certainly think it's going to help play being with the Bucs."

The philosophy of taking running backs deeper into proceedings is nothing new, and several highly accomplished ball carriers were taken in Round 4.

After the Bucs made tight end Cade Otton of Washington the leadoff pick — Rob Gronkowski has not publicly committed to return — the Texans grabbed RB Dameon Pierce of Florida. From there, the likes of Zamir White of Georgia, Isaiah Spiller of Texas A&M, Pierre Strong, a standout from South Dakota State of the FCS and Hassan Haskins of Michigan went off the board.

Of the 38 fourth-rounders, including compensatory choices, 20 were on offense, 15 on defense, and the three special-teamers.

The fifth round, however, got started with Washington grabbing North Carolina QB Sam Howell, who was projected as a much higher selection just a year ago, but didn't have an outstanding final season for the Tar Heels. Howell called it "a little stressful" to sit through four rounds.

"I was just hanging out and just waiting for a call, and I'm so glad it was Washington that called," Howell said. "This is a perfect spot for me. It's a team I wanted to play for all along."

SPORTS

Golf

from Page 1

biggest shot of the season, to qualify for the NCAA Tournament, just dribbled a few yards off the tee.

Last Wednesday at Pine Mountain, Georgia, Manuel birdied No. 16 and parred the last two holes to tie Seton Hall's Gregor Tait.

"We walk back there to the 18th hole and we're flipping a tee to see who goes first," Manuel said. "And the Big East [official] comes and says, 'We're going to play for the [NCAA] regional berth and not the championship. No matter what happens, you're going to be co-champions.'"

Tait, 24, a grad student from England, was already assured an NCAA berth because Seton Hall had clinched the team championship, so he announced he would concede the playoff hole to the UConn sophomore. Manuel was in the NCAA tournament.

"It was pretty cool moment," Manuel said. "It hit home a little bit, to have someone do that for me. It was a classy move. Being the kid he is, I wasn't surprised."

Manuel and Tait, opponents for two seasons, gained a friendship based on mutual respect for their abilities. Once Tait tipped his ballcap, Manuel had only to hit a shot to claim the berth, and he tapped one off the tee about 10 yards. He will learn Wednesday in which regional he will play, with Yale one of the six possible sites.

"It really doesn't surprise me," UConn coach Dave Pezzino said. "Gregor is just a classy kid, and I know he respects Caleb's game."

"For him to say, 'Well, heck, we can get more representation for the Big East,' Gregor looked at him and said, 'This kid's got game too,' and game respects game at that level."

Manuel, from Topsham, Maine, got used to growing his golf game in a less-than-ideal climate. He played baseball and basketball too, but when he found himself thinking more about golf than the next ground ball coming his way, he knew where he had to focus his efforts in the spring and summer.

He was a four-time all-stater at Mt. Ararat High.

"He just always struck me as a kid who would light up when he got to the golf course," Pezzino said. "He had this look in his eye."

"He loved to compete, and you could tell. He was super low-key, and I like those guys who [think]



Seton Hall's Gregor Tait, left, came from six strokes back to tie UConn's Caleb Manuel in the final round of the Big East tourney. They shared the conference title and both can play in the NCAAs. **UCONN ATHLETICS**

it's all about us and not about me. He was a good fit for what we're looking for at UConn: a hard-working guy who wanted to come in and roll up his sleeves."

After his visit to UConn, Manuel made his decision, but as he was finishing up his senior season he learned that the men's golf program was on the chopping block as UConn had to cut its athletic budget. Alumni rallied around Pezzino and the program to raise the money to save it.

Manuel was on the golf course when his father arrived to tell him UConn would have a golf team after all. He was the Big East's Freshman of the Year in 2021 and made clutch shots to clinch the Huskies' team title in the conference tournament last May.

"You picked a school and you want to go there bad," Manuel said. "And all of a sudden COVID hits and you don't know if you're going to go there."

"We didn't have a fall season; that was different, I was home my first semester. Once I got here it was everything I thought it would be."

Two years in Manuel, who won the Maine amateur title at age 19 last summer, is on his way to becoming one of the best golfers ever at UConn. His average score of 71.70 is the best for a Husky in records kept since 1994. He has shot in the 60s in 18 of his 57 career rounds.

"He's probably hitting his prime form here the next couple of weeks," Pezzino said.

This spring Manuel averaged

71.1 with eight top-10 finishes in 11 events, winning the UConn Invitational. At the conference tournament he was 10-under par after two rounds and led by as many as six strokes before Tait made a ferocious charge, shooting a 65 in the final round and taking a one-stroke lead.

At college events scoreboards are not set up everywhere, and Manuel made a point of not looking at the leaderboard.

"I've won before, but I've never had that big a lead before," he said. "You can kind of sleep on a lead when you're expected to win and you should win."

"When you're leading by one or two, you've still got to play well. You can't play it safe. You've got to play to separate yourself and have them come get you."

Manuel left a 25-foot putt a few inches short on 18, and after tapping in Pezzino told him he was in a playoff, setting the stage for Tait's gesture of sportsmanship.

"I really don't worry about him on the golf course because he doesn't get too high, doesn't get too low," Pezzino said. "He's not an overthinker. He's like a video game — you just point him in the right direction."

"Caleb's game travels very well. ... [The NCAA] can send him anywhere and I know he can compete with anybody."

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Track

from Page 1

Manchester Invitational track meet.

"He's a legend," said Bonnie Edmondson, the 2016 Rio Olympics throwing coach who is now Trinity's throwing coach. "George knows everybody. He's so well connected. He's been around for so long."

"But there's a difference between being well connected and well connected to better the sport. He's always been connected to better the sport and to increase opportunities for young people."

Said Sutor: "I've been lucky enough to do what I love to do for over 50 years."

Sutor, 73, who lives in Ellington, ran track and played football at East Hartford High. He ran for a year at Central but stopped when he married his wife Leslie his sophomore year.

He started coaching at Illing in 1972, the state's first middle school cross country program. Soon, there were other schools with programs so he started an invitational meet.

His Manchester track teams won five league championships in 11 years and had a dual meet record of 79-8. From 1975-92, his cross country teams won three state championships and 193 dual meets.

When he started coaching, the high school cross country state meets were held on golf courses but if the weather was bad, the meets had to be postponed so the golf course wouldn't be ruined by the runners. Sutor and Brimley were instrumental in moving the meets to Wickham Park.

Baron remembered coming up with a course for the Wickham Invitational.

"Each of us had an idea of what it was going to be," said Baron, the East Catholic track coach. "George wanted the course to have an extra hill. I thought we had enough hills already."

The extra hill was vetoed.

After Sutor retired from teaching and went to Trinity to coach in 1992, he still helped at high school state meets.

One of the trees that served as a course marker at Wickham was recently cut down, so Baron had an idea of how Sutor could help out next fall at the state meets.

"It's just a stump now, so we're not sure how we're going to mark that," Baron said. "Maybe I'll have George stand there on the stump and the kids can go around him so he feels he's really a part of it."

At Trinity, Sutor coached the likes of Yolanda Flaminio and Ryan Bak, both Olympic Marathon Trials qualifiers. Bak won the Division III national cross country championship in 2002 and two national titles in track. In 2003, his women's cross country team finished second at the NCAA championships.

Flaminio, who grew up in Ellington, went on to coach at Smith College, UNC-Greensboro and Merchant Marine Academy. She was there last Saturday.

"He's been very influential in my life, outside of being a coach," she said. "We've stayed in touch over the years and he continued to be a mentor and a friend."

"He had confidence in me when I didn't have confidence in myself. He humbled me when maybe I was getting ahead of myself. He

was very honest with me about my racing, which I always appreciated. One of my high school friends had passed away when I was here and his office is where I went to talk about it. He cared very much about your athletic performance, but he truly cared about you as a person."

Four years ago Sutor handed the indoor and outdoor track programs to one of his athletes, 2012 Trinity graduate John Michael Mason.

"I think George liked me because I ran tough," Mason said.

"I would go out there and sometimes fall apart because I went out too fast. He always preferred that type of athlete to someone who was dogging it. It was all about work ethic."

To that end, Sutor has always been a coach who doesn't sugar-coat things. He said he's finding it harder to connect with kids these days.

"A little bit of COVID and I think I'm losing a little bit of connection with the kids," he said.

"I can't coach the way I coached for a long time. Sometimes I'm too brutally honest. It's harder for them now. They're good kids but they're not used anyone calling them out. I read a quote from [Michigan State men's basketball coach Tom] Izzo the other day about the transfer portal: 'In order for something to grow, you have to have rain and sunshine.' They're not used to the rain."

He'll still be around. He plans to play golf. Maybe get a fishing boat.

"I don't think he's going to move to Florida on me," Mason said. "I'm sure he'll be bored, so he'll be around."

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gonna take another team effort. With those guys he makes it really tough because of how aggressive he is and how he can get in the lane and not only create for himself but create for those other guys. Those guys are sitting there ready for him to serve it up on a platter."

The Bucks rolled to a 4-1 win over Chicago in the first round, but one player the Celtics may not have to deal with is Khris Middleton, whose availability for this series remains uncertain. The three-time All-Star hasn't played since spraining the medial collateral ligament in his left knee 10 days ago in Game 2 against the

Bulls.

Since Tatum and Brown's first season together in Boston in 2017-18, Middleton has averaged 22.4 points and shot 52% from the field in two playoff series against the Celtics. But coach Mike Budenholzer said what he contributes on the defensive end is just as hard to replace.

"I do think he's underrated in what he does defensively, including in big stretches of games, important moments, guarding the best wings," Budenholzer said. "He takes a lot of pride in being a good defender. Also a little bit underrated, his size, he

BRUINS

Boston stuck with 'Canes in first round

By Andrew Mahoney
Boston Globe

BOSTON — The Boston Bruins are all too familiar with their first-round opponent in the NHL playoffs.

The Carolina Hurricanes won the NHL's Metropolitan Division and finished with the second-best record in the Eastern Conference. They clinched the division title and set a franchise record for most wins and points in a season (54-20-8, 116 points) with a 4-3 win over the Rangers at Madison Square Garden on Tuesday night.

Here are some early observations for the first-round series:

Their third postseason meeting in four seasons: The Bruins swept the Hurricanes in the 2019 Eastern Conference final.

The teams met again in the first round in 2020, with the Bruins prevailing in the bubble in five games. In both meetings, the Bruins were the higher seed, but that will not be the case this time around, with the series opening next week at PNC Arena in Raleigh, N.C.

Things were different this year: The Hurricanes swept the series vs. the Bruins, winning all three games by a combined score of 16-1. In the sixth game of the season, a 3-0 loss on Oct. 28 saw the Bruins fail to convert on a 5-on-3. Two of Carolina's goals went off a Bruins skater, while the third was an empty-netter.

The Bruins entered the Jan. 18

matchup having won eight of nine, but goalie Tuukka Rask, making his second start of the season, surrendered five goals on 12 shots before being pulled after the first period. The Hurricanes added two more goals for a 7-1 win on the night the Bruins retired Willie O'Ree's No. 22 jersey.

The Hurricanes returned to TD Garden three weeks later to face a

Bruins team that was without Brad Marchand (suspension) and Patrice Bergeron (head laceration) and delivered another beatdown, 6-0.

Who's in goal for Carolina?: The Bruins had to find solace in the fact that they appear to be getting healthy as they enter the postseason. The same cannot be said for the Hurricanes. Starting goalie Frederik Andersen left an April 16 road game against Colorado with a lower-body injury and has yet to return. Backup Antti Raanta exited Sunday's victory over the Islanders in the second period with a lower body injury.

Rookie Pyotr Kochetkov made his NHL debut Saturday and has appeared in three games, winning them all for Carolina. Kochetkov got the start against the Rangers Tuesday and recorded 34 saves.

Raanta was healthy enough to serve as backup, and got the start in the season finale, recording 27 saves in a 6-3 win over New Jersey.

Aho leads the way: Sebastian Aho leads the Hurricanes in scoring with a line of 37-44-81. He was selected in the second round of the 2015 draft, 35th overall. The Bruins had picks 13, 14, and 15 that year, and took Jakub Zboril, Jake DeBrusk, and Zach Senyshyn.

Andrei Svechnikov (30-39-69) and Teuvo Teravainen (21-43-64) also eclipsed the 60-point mark for Carolina. Tony DeAngelo is tops in points among the team's defensemen with 10-41-51.

The man behind the bench: In 2018, Rod Brind'Amour was named head coach for a Carolina team that had not reached the playoffs since 2009. The Hurricanes have reached the postseason in each of his four seasons behind the bench.

In 2021, he won the Jack Adams Award as NHL coach of the year. Bruins coach Bruce Cassidy won the award the previous year.



Carolina Hurricanes coach Rod Brind'Amour looks on from the bench during the third period of a game against the New Jersey Devils on April 23 in Newark, N.J. **BILL KOSTROUN/AP**

RANGERS

NHL Network analyst likes Rangers' Cup chances

By Colin Steponow
Newsday

NEW YORK — At long last, the playoffs start Tuesday for the Rangers, who are finally headed back to the NHL's Sweet 16 for the first time since 2017, set to host the Penguins at Madison Square Garden in Game 1 of the first-round best-of-seven, first round series.

The return comes after a three-and-a-half-year rebuild that started with The Letter in February, 2018 and effectively ended when GM Chris Drury hired coach Gerard Gallant last summer.

But here's the question for Drury, Gallant and the Rangers, who posted a 52-24-6 record this season:

Now that they're in it, can they win it? Can a team fresh out of a rebuild, and appearing in the playoffs for the first time in five years (not counting that three-game sweep loss to Carolina in the bubble play-in experience in 2020) actually win the Stanley Cup?

NHL Network analyst Mike Rupp doesn't see why not.

"We always talk about . . . you have to lose before you win," Rupp said in a telephone interview with Newsday. "But maybe sometimes

. . . that just makes us feel better about losing that first time. Like, 'Hey, we lost last year. So now we're ready to win.' [But] maybe it's more smoke than the truth, you know? I mean, you can certainly win without having playoff experience."

Rupp, who won a Stanley Cup as a rookie with the Devils in 2003 — he scored the Cup-clinching goal against Anaheim — played for the Rangers in 2011-12 before going into the TV business after his career ended in 2014. Last season, as the Rangers were wrapping up their rebuild, he predicted they would win a Stanley Cup within four years. And he's not backing away from that.

"I think in the next couple of years, they're going to be playing for a Stanley Cup," he said.

The way they are playing now, though, and the way goaltender Igor Shesterkin has played this season, Rupp wouldn't be surprised if this was the year.

"They check a lot of boxes," he said. "And the ones that aren't checked, as far as maybe playoff experience, or playoff success, or maybe playoff failure that you can learn from, they've got an 'X' factor in Shesterkin."

just does a lot of things, gets hits, gets rebounds, can start the break from a rebound. And he's smart. He's a good communicator. I think he helps guys out there. He sees and feels things at a high level defensively. There's lots of things we miss on that end of the court."

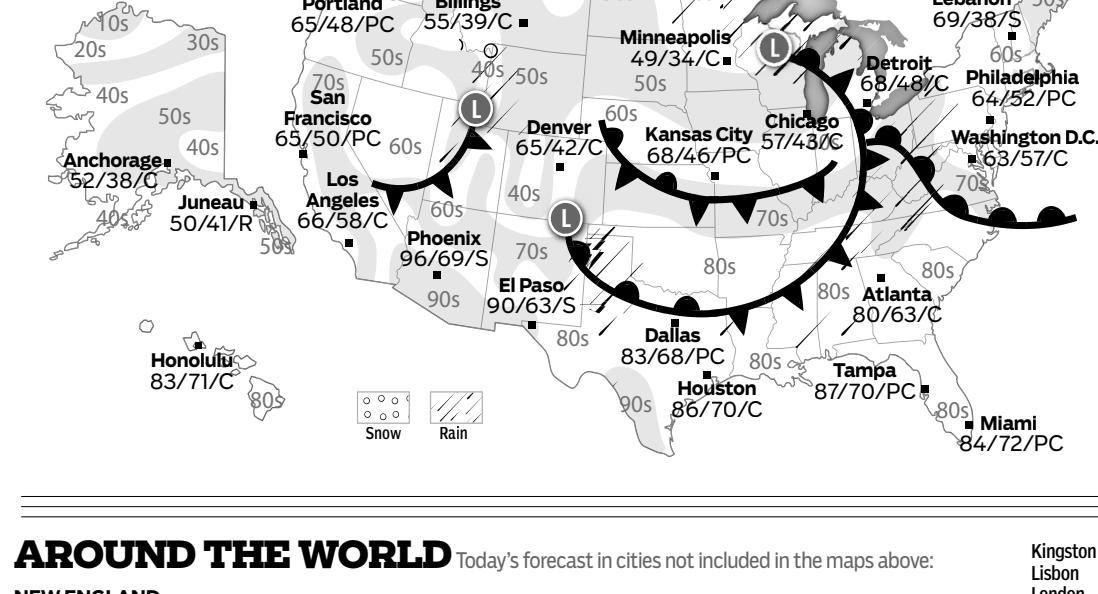
Budenholzer said he remains hopeful that George Hill could return at some point during the series, though the 35-year-old guard isn't expected to be available for Sunday's opener. Hill missed the entire Chicago series with an abdominal strain.

On the other side, Udoka said Williams didn't experience any

WEATHER

| SUNDAY | MONDAY | TUESDAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| SUNRISE 7:00 | SUNRISE 7:00 | SUNRISE 7:00 | SUNRISE 7:00 | SUNRISE 7:00 |
| NOON 7:00 | NOON 7:00 | NOON 7:00 | NOON 7:00 | NOON 7:00 |
| SUNSET 7:44 | SUNSET 7:44 | SUNSET 7:44 | SUNSET 7:44 | SUNSET 7:44 |
| Mostly sunny and delightful. North wind turning south around 5 mph. 72° 44° | Mostly cloudy with a few showers around, cooler. 56° 47° | Considerable cloudiness, slight chance for a shower. 64° 48° | Mostly cloudy with showers, tapering off late in the day. 62° 47° | Partly sunny and mild. 70° 44° |

YOURCAST



AROUND THE WORLD

Today's forecast in cities not included in the maps above:

NEW ENGLAND

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|------------|----|----|----|---------------|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|--------------|----|----|----|----------------|----|----|----|
| Bangor | 55 | 37 | C | Baltimore | 64 | 53 | SH | Nashville | 80 | 53 | PC | San Juan | 83 | 75 | SH | Budapest | 72 | 48 | PC |
| Burlington | 66 | 42 | S | Bismarck | 57 | 31 | C | New Orleans | 87 | 70 | C | Tucson | 94 | 60 | S | Windsor Locks | 40 | 37 | PC |
| Caribou | 47 | 34 | C | Boise | 61 | 42 | C | New York | 66 | 51 | S | | | | | London | 55 | 48 | C |
| Concord | 67 | 37 | S | Buffalo | 65 | 48 | C | Oklahoma City | 82 | 59 | PC | Amsterdam | 57 | 37 | PC | Buenos Aires | 68 | 50 | PC |
| Montpelier | 63 | 37 | S | Charleston | 84 | 66 | PC | Omaha | 64 | 40 | PC | Athens | 72 | 57 | C | Dubai | 90 | 77 | PC |
| Mt. Wash. | 35 | 27 | PC | Cincinnati | 72 | 46 | PC | Orlando | 90 | 68 | PC | Bangkok | 95 | 77 | T | Nassau | 55 | 45 | PC |
| Portland | 61 | 39 | PC | Cleveland | 72 | 53 | SH | Pittsburgh | 67 | 51 | T | Barbados | 85 | 78 | C | Helsinki | 54 | 36 | SH |
| Woods Hole | 61 | 42 | S | Indianapolis | 64 | 44 | PC | Raleigh | 81 | 62 | C | Beijing | 81 | 52 | C | Hong Kong | 75 | 66 | PC |
| | | | | Jacksonville | 83 | 63 | S | St. Louis | 69 | 50 | PC | Beirut | 72 | 64 | S | Istanbul | 68 | 52 | PC |
| | | | | Las Vegas | 83 | 63 | S | Salt Lake City | 62 | 44 | C | Jerusalem | 61 | 45 | C | Rio de Janeiro | 70 | 55 | S |
| | | | | Miami Beach | 81 | 75 | PC | San Antonio | 88 | 73 | C | Berlin | 71 | 64 | S | Rome | 68 | 48 | R |
| | | | | Albuquerque | 83 | 50 | PC | San Diego | 64 | 57 | C | Bermuda | 71 | 64 | S | Seoul | 64 | 48 | S |
| | | | | Atlantic City | 61 | 48 | S | | | | | Johannesburg | 68 | 48 | S | Singapore | 91 | 73 | T |

KEY:

S Sunny, C Cloudy, PC Partly Cloudy, R Rain, SH Showers, SN Snow, SF Snow Flurries, T T-storms

FRIDAY'S LATE HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BASEBALL

CCC-Inter

RHAM 15, SIMSBURY 3 (6)

S 201-000-3-6-4

R 006-352-16-12-2

WP: Mason Glickman. LP: Kevin Canny. HR: EC-CJ Nolan. Rec: W-10; EC-7-3.

SOFTBALL

CCC-Inter

RHAM 15, SIMBSURY 3 (6)

E 201-010-0-2-7-4

W 205-230-x-12-12-0

WP: Jordyn Fitch. LP: Mikaela Martinez. HR: R-Fitch. Rec: R-8-1; S-6-4. Note: Fitch was 3-for-4 with 5RBI. Grace Michaud and Olivia Davis each had 2 hits for Simsbury.

NEWINGTON 7, BRISTOL EASTERN 5

BE 201-022-0-5-8-6

N 210-004-x-7-5-2

WP: Jaelyn Gonzalez. LP: Alison Tellier. Rec: N-6-2; BE-5-5. Note: Gonzalez had a go-ahead 2-run single in the 6th. Tellier was 4-for-4 at the plate.

GIRLS LACROSSE

CCC-Inter

FARMINGTON 19, BERLIN 6

Goals: F-Liz Neri (5), Jen Austin (4), Lile Chekas (4), Abby Finn (2), Sophia Farrell (2), Delaney Dopp, McKenna Perry; B-Clare McGeever

(3), Brooke Robert, Leah Peck, Gabby Crossley, Saves: F-Lindsay Hillenmier, 7; B-Devin Collins, 8. Rec: F-6-2; B-2-5. Note: Finn also had 5 assists.

CONARD 15, RHAM 4

Goals: C-Nicole Gorman (4), Sophia Lynch (4), Leah Williams (3), Ruby Czajkowski, Courtney McPhee, Teagan DiPippo, Dani DiGiacomo; R-Joelle Goralski (2), Lauren Feige, Kaylee Macca. Rec: C-4-2; R-2-6.

BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-West

CONARD 3, LEWIS MILLS 1 (25-14, 19-25, 25-12, 25-10)

C: Hugh Baldwin, 35assists, 5digs, Jayden Du, 9 digs, 7kills; LM: TJ Howlett, 9kills, Alex Butwill, 16assists. Rec: C-5-3; LM-10-0.

CCC-Inter

NEWINGTON 3, WETHERSFIELD 1 (23-25, 25-19, 25-22)

N: Trey Guest, 19kills, 6digs, Jacob Lawless, 34 assists, 3blocks; W: Andrew Knapp, 16kills, 5 aces, Landan Bassell, 28assists. Rec: N-7-3; W-2-6.

GLASTONBURY 3, SIMSBURY 0 (26-24, 25-17, 25-22)

G: Eric Rose, 12kills, 8blocks, Stephen Dayton, 9 kills, 2blocks; S: Adam Vincent, 10kills, 2blocks, Tyler Sinatra, 23digs. Rec: G-10-0; S-6-5.

BOYS TENNIS

Others

STONINGTON 4, NEWINGTON 3

GIRLS TENNIS

CCC-South

MALONEY 7, LEWIS MILLS 0

CCC-East

RHAM 6, E.O. SMITH 1

NCCC

ELLINGTON 5, COVENTRY 2

SATURDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL RESULTS

BASEBALL

CCC-South

BRISTOL CENTRAL 6, PLAINVILLE 0

P 000-000-0-0-3-0

BC 021-003-x-6-10-1

WP: Oscar Kuzniar. LP: Sean Egan. Rec: BC-3-7; P-2-9. Note: Kuzniar had 11strikeouts.

NCCC

COVENTRY 3, CANTON 0

CA 000-000-0-0-2-3

CO 000-021-x-3-7-1

WP: AJ Rooks. LP: Sam Lincoln. Rec: CO-9-2; CA-6-5. Note: Rooks tossed a 2-hit shutout with 15strikeouts, 1walk. Gavin Covell was 2-for-3 with a double and Aidan Hecht was 2-for-3 for Coventry.

Scoreline

PORTLAND 12, WESTBROOK 1

NORTH BRANFORD 6, CROMWELL 1

EC

FITCH 12, BACON ACADEMY 7

MONDAY'S HIGH SCHOOL SCHEDULE

ALL GAMES AT 3:45 P.M. UNLESS NOTED

BASEBALL

CCC-1-2, ST. JOSEPH'S (PA) 0-5

BINGHAMTON 10-1, HARTFORD 3-0

CENTRAL 2-3, BRYANT 1-4

GIRLS TENNIS

SCC

LAW 5, SHEEHAN 2

Others

OLD LYME 6, WATERFORD 1

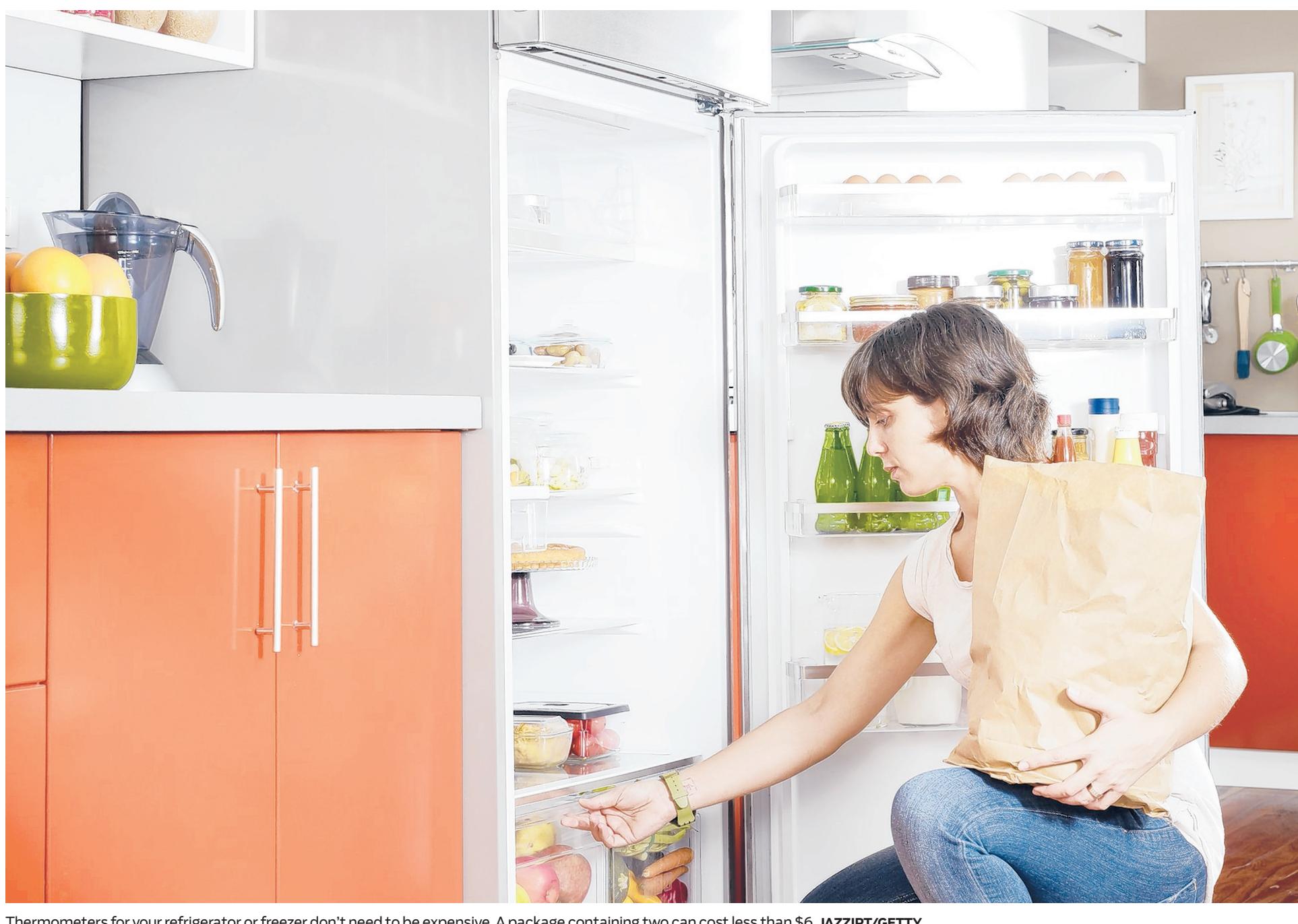
BOYS VOLLEYBALL

CCC-West

WETHERSFIELD 1, PLAINVILLE 0

CCC-Inter

Hartford Courant
CT HOME
& REAL ESTATE



Thermometers for your refrigerator or freezer don't need to be expensive. A package containing two can cost less than \$6. JAZZIRT/GETTY

SMALL FIXES with BIG IMPACT

Home hazards can lead to costly consequences, such as fires, flooding, injuries and death

By Liz Weston | NerdWallet

Home hazards can have costly consequences, like fires, flooding, injuries and death. But preventing accidents or disasters or minimizing the damage when they happen isn't as expensive as you might think. Small fixes that typically cost \$200 or less can have a big impact on home safety. Reduce your fire risks by adding mesh over vents to deflect embers and clearing vegetation close to your house. Lessen fall dangers by securing objects. Decrease water damage by installing sensors. And avoid getting food poisoning from eating spoiled foods by placing thermometers in your refrigerator and freezer to detect the correct temperature.

If it ain't broke, maybe you should fix it anyway.

That's the message consumer advocates and insurance experts want you to hear about your home's hidden dangers. Too often, they say, people put off relatively inexpensive repairs or improvements that could prevent significant damage, injuries or even death. While you can't eliminate every potential hazard, some small moves can have a huge impact on home safety.

Reduce your fire risks

Fires cause thousands of deaths and billions of dollars of property damage in the U.S. each year, according to the National Fire Protection Association, a nonprofit dedicated to eliminating fire-related loss. Climate change has also increased the risk of wildfires in many places.

Especially in wildfire-prone areas, you can reduce the chances of a stray ember igniting your home by installing screen mesh over vents and other openings, says Amy Bach, execu-

tive director of insurance consumer advocacy group United Policyholders. Clear gutters and the area under decks of dead leaves and other combustible material and create a "defensible space" by moving landscaping and other flammable objects at least 5 feet away from your foundation. If you have a fence that attaches to your home, the last 5 feet should be metal rather than wood, Bach recommends.

"You should not have wood fencing attached to your house at any point because it can act like a wick," Bach says.

A roll of $\frac{1}{4}$ -inch galvanized mesh costs about \$30 at home improvement stores, while metal fencing panels cost around \$100 to \$200 each.

Inside your home, install and regularly test smoke and carbon monoxide alarms. Prices vary based on features, but a three-pack of combination alarms often costs \$50 to \$100. You should have a fire extinguisher in the kitchen (expect to spend around \$50), but don't store it under the sink where it could be damaged by water leaks, says Ashita Kapoor, associate director of

product safety for Consumer Reports, a nonprofit product-testing organization. Instead, place the extinguisher near the stove but not so close that you couldn't reach it in the event of a fire there.

Also, clean your dryer filter and vents; lint buildup can cause fires. Vent cleaning kits cost around \$30.

Watch for fall threats

Falls are a leading cause of injuries treated in emergency rooms, according to the Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality. To reduce your odds of falling, put nonslip mats in showers and tubs. Elsewhere, secure or eliminate loose rugs and other tripping hazards. Practice good safety habits, such as wiping up spills immediately, closing the dishwasher door (it's a tripping hazard) and using a sturdy step stool rather than a chair to reach anything that's stored up high.

Also dangerous: stuff that falls on us. "Tip-over" incidents — where heavy furniture, TVs or appliances fall on people — resulted in an estimated annual average of 22,500 injuries treated in emergency rooms from 2018 to 2020, according to the Consumer Product Safety Commission. From 2000 to 2020, 581 people were reported killed, 81% of younger than 18.

Anchors to prevent tip-overs typically cost just a few dollars and connect the heavy piece to a stud in the wall with a strap or tether. If you're renting and not supposed to put holes in the wall, talk to your property manager about your safety concerns, especially if you have young children.

Address other hazards around the home

Another small but helpful purchase Kapoor recommends: thermometers for your refrigerator and freezer. Food that isn't kept at the proper temperature — 37 degrees Fahrenheit for the fridge, 0 degrees for the freezer — can spoil faster and cause food poisoning. Thermometers don't need to be expensive: A two-pack can cost less than \$6.

Consider placing water sensors, which often cost around \$50 each, near washing machines, hot water heaters and other sites of potential leaks. Some sensors can detect falling temperatures and alert you to freezing pipes. The savings could be significant: Insurance claims from water damage and freezing average about \$11,000, according to the Insurance Information Institute.

Finally, make it a habit to address small problems before they become big ones. For example, a glass shower door that no longer shuts properly or that's been nicked or scratched can suddenly shatter and injure someone, Kapoor notes. In fact, a Consumer Reports analysis of SaferProducts.gov, the Consumer Product Safety Commission's public database, found hundreds of injuries linked to shower and tub doors; many reports said the doors "exploded" with no warning. Replacing a glass door typically costs around \$200, Kapoor says.

"Be a little bit more proactive rather than reactive," Kapoor says. "We shouldn't wait until something blows up on us."

Boost your home's curb appeal this spring

By Avery Newmark
 Atlanta Journal-Constitution

Whether you're returning home after a long day at work or entertaining friends and family, you want to feel a sense of accomplishment as you pull into the driveway or walk up to the front door, which is why curb appeal matters. Your home's curb appeal even affects its value, bringing in buyers when the time comes to sell.

There are plenty of DIY-friendly projects that can be done at minimal cost to make your home shine this spring. Here are five tips to get you started:

Make your front door pop: The door is your home's exterior focal point. Draw attention to yours by painting it a vibrant springtime color like sky blue or hunter green, updating door hardware, or simply washing the dirt away.

Upgrade the lighting: Want to stand out from

your neighbors? Uplight. Exterior lighting packs a decorative punch, making spaces look bigger, welcoming guests and providing safety at night. Opt for a lighting style that works in balance with the architecture of your home.

Freshen up with plantings and flowers: Freshly planted flowers and greenery are the epitome of spring. Upgrade the look of your yard with new mulch, bulbs, perennials, or even stone paths and walls.

Hang a porch swing: When the weather's nice, there are few things more relaxing than sitting out on your porch swing, rocking your cares away. If you can't install a swing, go with rocking chairs for a similar effect.

Embrace spring cleaning: It is a great time to wash away from your exterior. Remember to polish windows, sweep away cobwebs, edge and define borders, and change out lightbulbs as needed.



A fresh pop of color at the front door can change the entire feel of your home. DREAMSTIME

REAL ESTATE MATTERS

Inheriting property could lead to different taxes

By Ilyce Glink and Samuel J. Tamkin
Tribune Content Agency

Q: I have an elderly sister in Pennsylvania who owns her home. It is worth around \$70,000. She's in poor health, and my younger sister is named in the will as beneficiary to that house. Is there any way for my younger sister to avoid federal and/or state taxes as she inherits the house? Would it be wise to have my younger sister added to the deed to be co-owner? In the event of my older sister's death, could the house be sold (by the executor, perhaps?) and the proceeds go to my younger sister, minus any taxes or costs of sale?

A: Thank you for your question, which is a variation on one of the most popular issues we hear about: inheriting property.

Let's get a couple of items out of the way. First, the vast majority of Americans don't have to worry about estate taxes. As far as the federal government is concerned, when a person dies, that person's estate won't have to pay any estate taxes if the value of the estate is less than \$12,060,000 (according to irs.gov) and the death occurs in 2022. Many states have no estate tax at all, while others may start charging an estate tax at \$1 million (Massachusetts' state estate tax begins at that level, according to www.mass.gov).

However, your elderly sister lives in Pennsylvania, and that state has some unusual rules that directly affect our regular advice on this topic.

All real property (like a house), tangible personal property (including cars, cash and furniture) and intangible property (like stocks and bonds) are subject to inheritance tax in Pennsylvania. There is no



There's a good deal of complexity in what seems to be a simple request. **DREAMSTIME**

exclusion, except between spouses and parents to minor children. So, a spouse can pass ownership of all real and personal property to a spouse (or a minor child under the age of 21) upon death without paying tax, but siblings cannot.

The amount of tax paid is based on the relationship to the decedent. "The tax rate for Pennsylvania Inheritance Tax is 4.5% for transfers to direct descendants (lineal heirs), 12% for transfers to siblings, and 15% for transfers to other heirs (except charitable organizations, exempt institutions and government entities that are exempt from tax)," according to the Montgomery County website.

Our initial thought was to add your younger sister to the older sister's deed, but even joint tenants with rights of survivorship are subject to the inheritance tax.

What about a gift? Turns out, Pennsylvania doesn't have a gift tax. Your sister could give the entire property to her younger sibling now, while she is alive, and there should be no estate or gift tax consequences. While the federal annual gift tax exemption for 2022 is \$16,000, the lifetime gift amount is \$12.06 million.

If your sister is worried about transferring ownership, she could maintain a life estate for the property, which would allow her to live there as long as she

wants.

There are other options, but gifting the property should be an easy way to pass the property to your younger sister without paying estate tax. An attorney can help you with the paperwork, or you may even be able to execute a quit claim deed and file it with the local recorder of deeds office.

Bear in mind that if your older sister gifts the property now to the younger sister, there may well be capital gains tax to pay down the line. That's because when your older sister gifts her the property, your younger sister will receive it at the price the older sister paid for the house (known as the

basis). This might cause a taxable event, and it's the reason we rarely prefer this method of transfer compared with an inheritance.

For example, if your older sister paid \$20,000 for the property and it's worth \$70,000 today, your younger sister would receive the property at its \$20,000 cost basis. When she sells the property, she'll have to pay long-term capital gains tax on the \$50,000. (She will be able to subtract the costs of sale and any material work that is done to the property under her ownership.)

Depending on your younger sister's income, the capital gains tax owed might be less than 12%. If

she decides to live in the property and doesn't sell it, or if she decides to rent it out, at least she won't owe the 12% inheritance tax within nine months of her sibling's death or pay capital gains tax, but there could be other tax issues to consider.

There's a good deal of complexity in what seems to be a simple request. Before making any moves, your older and younger siblings should consult with an estate attorney and their tax preparer.

Ilyce Glink is the CEO of Best Money Moves and Samuel J. Tamkin is a real estate attorney. Contact them through the website ThinkGlink.com.



A soggy spot outside is possibly the result of a broken or leaking sprinkler line. **DREAMSTIME**

HOME REMEDIES

Water leaks can be big issue

By Paul F. P. Pogue

Ask Angi

Water leaks may seem harmless, but they can quickly escalate into one of the biggest problems around your home. Not only do leaks waste water, but they can also send utility bills sky-high, invite mold growth, and cause expensive damage to your house.

When reviewing your home's efficiency, take these simple steps to get rid of water leaks.

1. Update your appliances

Older toilets can be some of the biggest water wasters in your house. Toilets installed before 1992 can use as many as 7 gallons of water with every flush. However, all toilets sold since 1992 must use no more than 1.6 gallons per flush. And toilets that have earned the WaterSense label from the Environmental Protection Agency use 1.28 gallons per flush or less and provide the same performance as less-efficient toilets.

To avoid flushing your hard-earned money down the toilet, consider upgrad-

ing older toilets to new, high-efficient models like WaterSense toilets. The EPA says these water-saving latrines can save 13,000 gallons of water per year for an average annual savings of \$140.

While toilets account for the most water usage, you shouldn't overlook other appliances. For instance, washing machines account for nearly a quarter of your water use. High-efficiency washing machines use less water, and many models let you adjust for the size of the laundry load.

Similarly, newer dishwashers that carry the Energy Star logo use less water and consume less energy than older models.

2. Look out for leaks

Check indoor fixtures for the telltale signs of a leak. Low pressure from faucets, musty smells, ceiling stains, and water discoloration can mean you need to take a closer look. For outdoor fixtures, pay attention to unexpected muddy spots and spongy grass. Turn faucets on and off again, then look for dripping or signs of leaks around the wall or

faucet base. If you find soggy points away from the main water line, there's a good chance they involve the sprinkler system.

If you think you might have a leak but can't find it on your own, call a plumber for help. Modern tools and miniature camera lines allow them to accurately pinpoint where water is coming from — and where it's going.

3. Find the valves

Most plumbing fixtures have a shut-off valve that should be easily accessible near the floor or under cabinets. This offers a temporary solution if a fixture is leaking significant amounts of water. And if you have a significant leak on an internal line, you might need to shut off your home's primary water supply to stop rushing water.

A house built on a slab usually has the valve near the water heater tank. If you have a basement, that's where you'll likely find the valve.

Your plumber can show you exactly where your valve is if you can't find it on your own.

TREASURES

Lamp base is not painted by renowned artist Kauffmann

By Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson
Tribune News Service

Q: Attached are photos of the front, back and enlarged section of an old lamp that was originally a vase. It has been in my family for over 75 years. I believe it is hand-painted and signed by the artist. Any information would be appreciated.

A: Some call Angelika Kauffmann the "Female Raphael of the Arts," and she was one of the most celebrated woman artists of her day. She born in 1741 in Chur, Switzerland (now present-day Graubünden).

At birth she was named Maria Anna Angelika Kauffmann. In English she is known as "Angelica Kauffman." She called herself a "history painter," worked in the neoclassical style and was known for her portraits and landscapes. She initially painted in Rome and Naples, where she painted portraits of some prominent English visitors.

She was very successful, and at the urging of Lady Wentworth (aka Lady Bridget Wentworth Murray) she moved to London, where she continued her success.

She became a friend of the royal family and Sir Joshua Reynolds, who called her "Miss Angel."

There are historical rumors about the 20-something woman and the much older man (by 17 or 18 years), but there is little to no proof of anything untoward happening.

Kauffmann was one of the founding members of the London Academy in 1768 and exhibited paintings in their events. She was also known for her singing voice, which was said to be comparable to the best Roman virtuosi.

Upon Kauffmann's death in



The signature on this lamp is that of Angelica Kauffmann — but is it actually her signature? **COURTESY**

1807, celebrated sculptor Antonio Canova designed her funeral in the manner of the one held centuries earlier for the Renaissance painter Raphael.

The image on the covered urn/lamp base is based on Kauffmann's work, but it was not executed by her hand. Without any marks, we have to speculate that the piece was made sometime between the 1890s and the 1920s in the style of Royal Vienna.

Overall, the piece

appears to be closer to the 1920s. The brass base is typical of the first quarter of the 20th century and is similar to ones found on lamps from the 1910s to the

1920s. The decoration is

in the neoclassical style of

Angela Kauffmann, but it is

probably a transfer print

based on her work. Some

brush strokes may have

been applied to the piece to

make the work look more

hand-painted.

Objects with Kauffmann's

signature can be found readily in today's antiques and collectible marketplace. Boxes, plates, tea sets, urns, lamps, plaques, even furniture pieces

feature decorations based on Kauffmann's work, bear a "Kauffmann" signature and are collected as late 19th and early 20th century decoration. Single lamps

bring about \$150 at retail, but pairs are more sought after and can bring \$400 and up.

Helaine Fendelman and Joe Rosson have written a number of books on antiques. Do you have an item you'd like to know more about? Contact them at Joe Rosson, 2504 Seymour Ave., Knoxville, TN 37917, or email them at treasures@knology.net. If you'd like your question to be considered for their column, include a high-resolution photo of the subject, which must be in focus, with your inquiry.

PROPERTY OF THE WEEK: 6 Far Hills Drive, Avon, CT

Sponsored



Property of the Week

6 Far Hills Drive, Avon, CT

By James Alexander



built-in Wolf coffee system – you don't see those very often – and a farm sink, all finely crafted.” A second sink is far enough away to give two cooks ample elbowroom.

The kitchen also has a large breakfast area that opens to the patio plus two surprises. The first is a scullery that connects to the dining room. This passageway is, Seifts said, “...beautifully fitted with a Sub-Zero wine chiller and two refrigerator drawers, soapstone counters, and white inset cabinetry. All this was custom done and is brand new. They finished this at the end of 2021.”



system, central air conditioning, and new LED lighting with new fixtures that are, as Seifts put it, “timeless but current.” The renovations also included upgrading the home's Internet and Wi-Fi connections and adding an audio distribution system with speakers in every room.



Then there is the pantry that is large enough to accommodate a cook's study with room for cookbooks, a computer, and a large assortment of provisions. “It's a pretty working pantry,” Seifts said. “You do see homes with this level of exquisite craftsmanship, but they are not always functional. This home is fully functional.”

Other first floor highlights include a recently remodeled mudroom, with its own entrance, two half-baths, a back stairway to the second floor, and access to the “L” shaped four-car garage. This layout keeps the garage from overwhelming the home's front facade.

The five bedrooms are on the second floor. Each has a private bath, ample closet space, and large windows for more enticing views.

The primary suite deserves special mention. It is spacious without being overwhelming, has a dramatic tray ceiling, two separate walk-in closets and two separate full baths, each suitable for a spa. One has a soaking tub, the other a steam shower. As with the other bathrooms on this floor, these two baths have been recently remodeled. “The results [for all of the bathrooms] are exquisite,” Seifts said.

The final room on the second floor is the bonus room, now outfitted as a home gym. It is large enough to accommodate multiple pieces of exercise equipment and group workouts.

The lower level is partially finished and includes a large wine cellar, a home theater, and a walkout game room with space for informal gatherings and a wet bar. As in the upper floors, the workmanship here is excellent. There is also a half bath on this level and access to the mechanical, storage and workshop areas.

Outside, the landscaping of the level lot is as impressive as the home. The courtyard has a large paver patio, one of three terraces on the property, with stone sitting walls, a new hot tub, and an organically shaped infinity pool that is both elegant and sophisticated. At the front of the home, a circular driveway greets guests.

Other points of interest are the wood shingle roof, which was recently replaced, a five-zone heating

“Far Hills was built by Avonridge,” Seifts said. “It's a very sought after location. On the east side of Avon, it is super convenient, and it's a neighborhood, a cul-de-sac. People love it. You have neighbors, but you still have privacy.” This home is also an award winner having garnered the “HOBI Best Spec Home” award from the Home Builders & Remodelers Association of Connecticut in 2002.



PROPERTY OF THE WEEK

6 Far Hills Drive, Avon, CT

Year built: 2002

Price: 2,495,000

Style: Stone Shingle Traditional

Rooms: 14

Bedrooms: 5

Baths: 6 full; 3 half

Square footage: 8,432 including 1,400 finished lower level space

Acreage: 1.41

Mill rate: 34.21

Best feature: A combination of livability, space, superior craftsmanship and a location with incredible views

Contact: Ellen Seifts, Avon's Number One Agent for 20 Years Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices Northeast 172 West Main Street, Avon, CT 06001 ellen@bhsne.com • 860-214-3540

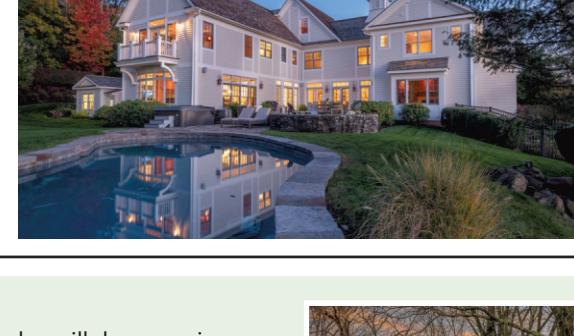
This becomes clear when stepping into the formal living room. Here, large six-over-one transom windows bathe the room with light while exposing beautiful views. Look to the west and you cast your gaze for miles across Farmington Valley. Seifts notes that the sunsets and colors during foliage season are beautiful.

The front entry hall offers sightlines into the formal living and dining rooms. But more intriguing is the view of the patio at the rear of the house, as seen through an array of French doors.

Walk toward this inviting scene and you pass the main second-floor stairs before reaching the library, a room that could comfortably serve anyone working from home. It has a fireplace, one of five in the home, cabinetry finished in rich wood tones, a window seat, built-in bookcases and large windows offering enticing views. “It's very inviting and captivating,” Seifts said, “but wait until you see the kitchen.”

Getting there calls for a walk past the formal dining room with its tray ceiling, bay window and impressive trim work. It, along with much of the first floor, features a shadowboxing wall treatment below a chair rail.

As for the kitchen, it has just been extensively remodeled. Features include a white quartz counter on a center island, with work surfaces of contrasting soapstone and cabinets along the perimeter. “The quartz island is almost 11 feet,” Seifts said. Other features, she added, “...include inset cabinets, two Cove dishwashers, Wolf appliances, including a



WEST HARTFORD

This charming Colonial with complete modern upgrades will draw you in from the street with a covered front porch, on-trend lighting, and energy efficient front door. Home has great flow with a light-filled family room off of the kitchen featuring a sliding glass door to a fully-fenced yard with wooded privacy. Modern, fully renovated living for any lifestyle! 61 Craigmoor Rd, West Hartford CT 06107. MLS #170467529. Contact The Diane Barry Team - Diane Barry 860.614.1569 | dbarry@williampitt.com & Caitlyn Cleary 860.798.1589 | ccleary@williampitt.com. \$495,000.



WEST HARTFORD

Stylishly updated & well maintained Colonial in walking distance to West Hartford Center. The light filled main floor flows easily for gracious entertaining and is enhanced with hardwood floors throughout. The remodeled kitchen opens to the living room and family room and features granite countertops, stainless steel appliances, gas range and a charming dining area with corner cabinet. Easy access to the deck from the kitchen and family room to enjoy your morning coffee while listening to the sounds of nature. 45 Westbrook Rd, West Hartford CT 06107. MLS #170481414. Contact The Diane Barry Team - Diane Barry 860.614.1569 | dbarry@williampitt.com & Caitlyn Cleary 860.798.1589 | ccleary@williampitt.com. \$450,000



REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

ANSONIA

5 Eagle St, Bertanza, Eugene to Paniagua, Elina A and Suetta Petronilla, 4/13, \$270,000
25 Edgewood Ave, Meissner, Elizabeth V and Cass, William J to Koudikes, Eleni and Tzioski, George, 4/14, \$325,000
32 Hull St, Zunica, Gezim to Anyaene, Jerry, 4/11, \$385,000
51 Silver Hill Rd, Rizzio, James and Carrington Mtg Svcs LLC to Poliwoda, Ewa, 4/14, \$180,000
254 Main St, Stauffer Investments LLC to Trepcza 254 Ansonia LLC, 4/14, \$400,000

AVON

2 Monroe Ln Lot 2, Rubenstein, Elanna S to Duprey, Carol G and Duprey, Mary, 4/11, \$245,000
21 Cottonwood Dr Lot 21, Spears, Ashley to Saxena, Praveen and Darbari, Parul, 4/11, \$267,500
25 Avonside, Donaldson, Andrew M and Donaldson, Elaine M to Levesque 2nd, Glenn D and Truong, Tuyen, 4/13, \$500,000
40 W Avon Rd, Avon Center RE LLC to Forty West Avon Rd LLC, 4/12, \$400,000

BARKHAMSTED

51 Hill Farm Way, Pensull LLC to Lazur, Alicia and Russell, Christopher, 4/11, \$53,000

BEACON FALLS

4 Sharon Dr, Leake, Russell to Leake, Kyle E, 4/14, \$318,600
81 Bethany Rd, Elmitsky, Philip S and Elmitsky, Phillip S to Herbele, Jeffrey A and Herbele, Erin P, 4/12, \$325,000

BERLIN

38 Branderjee Ln, Ragaglia, Robert H to Lee, Younghyun, 4/11, \$338,000
683 Worthington Rd, Long, Darold to Brim Hill LLC, 4/14, \$340,000
687 Beckley Rd, Below, Justin to Walsh, Stephen and Walsh, Lisa, 4/14, \$510,000

BETHANY

59 Bethany Farms Rd, Beberman-Jennes, Phillips to Rousseau, Christopher J and Rousseau, Ching M, 4/14, \$710,000

BETHEL

14-8 Francis J Clarke Cir, Choi, Henry T to Escher Properties LLC, 4/12, \$725,000
26 Heartstone Dr, Teixeira, Nilson D to Henry, Deverton and Henry, Tara, 4/12, \$635,000
521 Copper Square Dr Lot 521, RMS Copper Square LLC to Quigguido, Jaime and Sanchez, Lisseth, 4/11, \$379,900

BLOOMFIELD

4 Camelot Dr Lot 3, Moreau, Alex and Moreau, Nancy G to Robles, Susan, 4/12, \$135,000

32 Wintonbury Ave, 32 Wintonbury LLC to New 32 Wintonbury LLC LLC, 4/11, \$395,000

42 Alexander Rd, Hallums, Larry D and Freedom Mortgage Co to Dudley, Kerrynn, 4/8, \$185,000

BOLTON

West St, Freddo Eleanor L Est and Freddo, Thomas F to Jakee LLC, 4/11, \$20,000

BOZRAH

2 Wawecus Hill Rd, 623 East Main LLC to Ramos, Robert and Ramos, Heather, 4/13, \$260,000

BRANFORD

Great Pin, Briggs Grant Jr Est and Briggs 3rd, Grant A to Michaels Family Cmty T and Michaels, Barold C, 4/12, \$635,000
5 Hampton Park Lot 5, Palmeri, Ryan F and Palmeri, Nicole to Nieves, Lorenzo, 4/11, \$219,000
24 Side Hill Rd, Salzano, Francis to Brereton, Max E, 4/11, \$300,000
31 Montoya Dr Lot 31, Amin, Nirav to Zilyte, Laura, 4/14, \$195,000
31 Yowage Ave, Stevens, Amy W to 30 Hunting Ridge LLC, 4/13, \$1,605,000
45 Monticello Dr Lot 45, Fucci, Michele to Welch, Laura I, 4/11, \$138,000
58 Turtle Bay Dr Lot 58, Viscuso, Andrea and Sudock, Richard J to Maurer, Kathleen C, 4/12, \$421,000
137 S Montowese St, Kilbridge, Bobbi A and Kilbridge, Ryan to Turnage, Andrew and Tario, Jenette, 4/11, \$430,000

BRIDGEPORT

Carlton Ave, Pizarro, Daniel to Ducksworth, Anthony M and Barnaby, Mishka A, 4/6, \$316,000

Lourmel St, Marri, Imad to Valez, Alirio R and Martinez, Doris G, 4/7, \$400,000
Success Vlg, Success Vlg Apt Inc to Lewis, Romana, 4/11, \$12,500

Success Vlg, Lashley, Juanita Y to Godfrey, Brandon, 4/7, \$4,200

34 Court C, Meresko Jr, Michael S to Edward, Patricia, 4/11, \$50,000

35-41 Butler Ave, 35 Butler LLC to 35 Butler Ave LLC, 4/7, \$885,000

50 Greenhouse Rd Lot 41C, Elin, Kirill to McKnight, Deborah and Bella, Jaclyn, 4/6, \$186,000

59 Hanford Ave, Santana, Juan to Palko, Britny and Keylock, Jake, 4/12, \$320,000

65 Ridgebrook Dr, Pena, Ana to Nunez, Jonael and Hernandez, Mario M, 4/8, \$477,000

80 Cartwright St Lot 3E, Matuk, Irma to Oliveira, Marlon H and Couto, Wesley P, 4/8, \$115,000

83-85 Seelye St, Hernandez, Juan to Vera-Macias, Ramona G, 4/6, \$25,000

99-101 Johnson St, Johnson Street Dev LLC to Anew M&M Renovations LLC, 4/5, \$20,000

119 Gem Ave, Stuart James T Jr Est and Athenson, Mary J to Neiva, Simone N, 4/7, \$136,000

121 Marconi Ave Lot 121, Wirtz, Hillary to Sweet, Joshua L and Sweet, Dora E, 4/5, \$215,000

130 Arthur St, Goins, Timothy to Waibel, Nicole, 4/11, \$255,000

140 Beachview Ave Lot 280, Manchisi, Domenico to Hogan 4th, William, 4/7, \$250,000

145 Taft Ave, Bangi, Aslam I to Zepeda, Carmen E andaca, Cervando, 4/7, \$218,000

145-147 Wade St, Guimaraes, Lucio to Lazaro, Flavio F, 4/11, \$290,000

155 Brewster St Lot 2L, Vazquez, Maria V to Bilyard, Joann C, 4/7, \$345,000

168 Savoy St, Luna, Felipe to Pires, Sonja C, 4/8, \$220,000

171 Aldine Ave, 171 Aldine LLC to Melo, Sonia C, 4/7, \$270,000

171 Hanover St, Santiago, Migdalla to Butt, Barbara J, 4/7, \$120,000

200 Woodmont Ave Lot 133, Halkovic Michael Est and Halkovic, Melissa to Wright, Gareth, 4/12, \$150,000

201 Granfield Ave, Coastal Fairfield Cnty to Oquendo, Crystal L, 4/11, \$180,000

216 Cherry Hill Lot 2B, 216 Cherry Hill T and Kelleman, Alexei I to Foreman, Pauline, 4/11, \$137,600

234 Pilgrim Pl, Rodriguez, Lourdes to Gyamfi, Abigail O, 4/8, \$315,000

245-247 Sheridan St, Jaaiman, Carmen to Ez BH Real Estate LLC, 4/8, \$265,000

255 Rocton Ave, Liriano, Delvis T and Zabala, Maria C to Bourisquit, Marie and Lazarre St, Jeal, 4/11, \$365,000

255-259 Sheridan St, Jaaiman, Carmen and Jaaiman, Julio T to Ez BH Real Estate LLC, 4/8, \$265,000

266 Pennsylvania Ave Lot 266, Valle Angel L 3rd Est and Torres, Elsa to Gonzalez, Barbara J, 4/7, \$120,000

270 Lexington Ave, Lobo, Agnelo L to Vilas Hardwood Floors LLC, 4/12, \$185,000

315 Colorado Ave, Pierce Angelo Est and Hill Sr, Roderick to 79 Lansing LLC, 4/6, \$155,000

320-322 Maplewood Ave, 320 Maplewood Ave LLC to Lema, Segundo J and Castro, Maria, 4/5, \$440,000

324-328 Benham Ave, Liu, Bixiang to Devarinti, Shiva and Oshea, John, 4/8, \$420,000

325 Lafayette St Lot 5201, Macklin, Oliver to Benoit, Shawn and Ocasio, Natalie, 4/11, \$185,500

333 Vincellette St Lot 110, Putnocky, Roger

to Lacwik, Bozena, 4/6, \$120,000
401-403 Poplar St, Boursiquot, Marie C to Jimenez, Elizabeth C and Montesino, Rigoberto, 4/8, \$350,000
435 Evers St, Walter Cabrera Hm Imps to Rivas, Jose L, 4/7, \$347,000
461-465 Gregory St, Alici, Anthony to 461 Gregory St LLC, 4/11, \$50,000
601 Gurdon St, DiFilippo, Michael A to Santos Group LLC, 4/12, \$230,000
703-705 Brewster St, Sales, Lisa F to Sorrentino, Vincent J, 4/7, \$301,000
711 Knowlton St, Tish Properties LLC and Charter Servicing Co LLC to Charter Servicing Co LLC, 4/6, \$27,972
733 Iranistan Ave, Pierce Angelo Est and Hill Sr, Roderick to 79 Lansing LLC, 4/6, \$180,000
743 Washington Ave, Palmer, Everton S and Palmer, Mordala to Tacuri, Julio R and Pintado, Maria A, 4/11, \$425,000
805-809 Capitol Ave, Johnson, Jude to Mala, Stiljan and Kore, Denis, 4/11, \$485,000
875 Thorne St, Lisboa, Christopher to Hucey, Claudine, 4/6, \$291,500
968-972 Pearl Harbor St, Rose, Danielle and Rose, Jermaine to Dawkins, Cherise M and Bartholemew, Charles, 4/11, \$301,000
1157 Ogden St Ext, Vacca, Maria E and Vacca, Ricardo G to Jones, Tammy, 4/12, \$170,000
1175 Chopey Hill Rd, Smith, Soye to Barretta, Vanessa, 4/12, \$270,000
1231-1237 North Ave, Grand Manor Holdings LLC to Tri State Property LLC, 4/11, \$439,900
1267-1269 Madison Ave, Lopez, Marisol to Guasco, Segundo D and Zamora, Maria M, 4/12, \$350,000
1418 Iranistan Ave, Lobo, Agnelo L to Vidas Hardwood Floors LLC, 4/12, \$140,000
2034-2036 E Main St, Estrada, Jorge E to JR Assets Group Corp, 4/12, \$350,000
2370 North Ave Lot 8B, Serrano, Felix to Jecrois, Jeff, 4/11, \$10,000
2370 North Ave Lot 2C, Mortimer William J Est and Mortimer, William J to Papademetriou, Katina A, 4/11, \$53,500
2370 North Ave Lot 8E, Clark, Theron to Phelan, John, 4/11, \$95,000
2625 Park Ave Lot 8E, Holt, Mary to Baum, Jonathan, 4/12, \$122,000

CORNWELL

12A River Rd, Shapiro, Ira to Reppi 3rd, James and Reppi, Monica, 4/11, \$650,000
36 Lower River Rd, Bishop, Peter and Feeley, Maria to Smith, Sarah L and Smith, Joshua L, 4/14, \$900,000
711 Knowlton St, Tish Properties LLC and Charter Servicing Co LLC to Charter Servicing Co LLC, 4/6, \$27,972
733 Iranistan Ave, Pierce Angelo Est and Hill Sr, Roderick to 79 Lansing LLC, 4/6, \$180,000
743 Washington Ave, Palmer, Everton S and Palmer, Mordala to Tacuri, Julio R and Pintado, Maria A, 4/11, \$425,000
805-809 Capitol Ave, Johnson, Jude to Mala, Stiljan and Kore, Denis, 4/11, \$485,000
875 Thorne St, Lisboa, Christopher to Hucey, Claudine, 4/6, \$291,500
968-972 Pearl Harbor St, Rose, Danielle and Rose, Jermaine to Dawkins, Cherise M and Bartholemew, Charles, 4/11, \$301,000
1157 Ogden St Ext, Vacca, Maria E and Vacca, Ricardo G to Jones, Tammy, 4/12, \$170,000
1175 Chopey Hill Rd, Smith, Soye to Barretta, Vanessa, 4/12, \$270,000
1231-1237 North Ave, Grand Manor Holdings LLC to Tri State Property LLC, 4/11, \$439,900
1267-1269 Madison Ave, Lopez, Marisol to Guasco, Segundo D and Zamora, Maria M, 4/12, \$350,000
1418 Iranistan Ave, Lobo, Agnelo L to Vidas Hardwood Floors LLC, 4/12, \$140,000
2034-2036 E Main St, Estrada, Jorge E to JR Assets Group Corp, 4/12, \$350,000
2370 North Ave Lot 8B, Serrano, Felix to Jecrois, Jeff, 4/11, \$10,000
2370 North Ave Lot 2C, Mortimer William J Est and Mortimer, William J to Papademetriou, Katina A, 4/11, \$53,500
2370 North Ave Lot 8E, Clark, Theron to Phelan, John, 4/11, \$95,000
2625 Park Ave Lot 8E, Holt, Mary to Baum, Jonathan, 4/12, \$122,000

CROMWELL

Country Squire Dr, Russell, Victoria to Cusick, Mary L, 4/4, \$101,000
Expandable Condo Lot 1, Lecorne, John to Shore, David, 4/12, \$160,000
20 Woodside Rd, Scheu Constance J Est and Scheu, Peter M to Reed Builders LLC, 4/14, \$390,000
45 Coles Rd, Sandra K Muller T and Muller, Wygn N to Vontell, Daniel J and Vontell, Sarah L, 4/14, \$351,000

DANBURY

1 Beaver Brook Rd Lot 12, Joo, Jane E and Joo, Frank to Teixeira, Glover and Teixeira, Carolyn B to Benton, Fenton, Brian, 4/13, \$360,000
2 Penny Ln, Nimbala, Kalyan and Neelakantha, Carolyn B to Teixeira, Glover and Teixeira, Carolyn B to Cusick, Mary L, 4/14, \$100,000

2 Shepard Rd, Somers, Roger to Dahlgren, Sherri M to Sharkey, Matthesha, 4/14, \$420,000

DANBURY

8 Westville Commons Condo Lot 1301, Loukrezia, Melissa and Masone, Wayne to Gill, Frederick and Gouveia, Jacqueline, 4/13, \$365,000
204 Golf Dr Lot 304, Satonick, Deborah to Hernandez, Fabian and Hernandez, Kirsts M, 4/12, \$147,000
1221 Cromwell Hills Dr Lot 1221, Cyr 2nd, Kevin D to Matzkin, Gayane, 4/12, \$135,000

DANBURY

115 Woodland Rd Lot 115, Krauchick, Lauren to Nauli, Reme, 4/11, \$147,000
116 Woodland Rd Lot 116, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000

DANBURY

116 Woodland Rd Lot 117, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000
117 Woodland Rd Lot 118, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000

DANBURY

118 Woodland Rd Lot 119, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000
119 Woodland Rd Lot 120, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000

DANBURY

120 Woodland Rd Lot 121, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000
121 Woodland Rd Lot 122, Roy, Renata M and Roye, Renata to Royle, Leon, 4/11, \$147,000

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

from Page 4

45 Louis Rd, OConnor, Edward M and OConnor, Christine F to Amand, Eric and Burzin, Sarah, 4/13, \$145,000

MIDDLETOWN

Aston Ln, Ramos Antonio E Est and Moody, Zoraida to Alan, Gary and Sue, Melissa, 4/8, \$345,000
Summerbrook Mi, Defrance 5th, August to Zak Group LLC, 4/8, \$95,000
1 Dunham Ave, Bishop June A Est and Bishop, Sarah to Morello Properties LLC, 4/11, \$91,000
9 Copper Beech Dr, Fazzino LT and Fazzino, Dina to Lanconi Jr, Thomas C and Lanconi, Nicole, 4/4, \$90,000
10 Griffin Pl, Santiago, Jamie to Lopez, Melqui T, 4/11, \$292,500
11 Rising Trill Ct Lot 11, Randall, Emma P and Owens, Emma P to Wang, Hongjie and Dong, Hongli, 4/11, \$157,900
31 Warwick St, 31 Warwick Street LLC to Eddinger, Janina, 4/11, \$190,000
33 Warwick St, 31 Warwick Street LLC to Eddinger, Janina, 4/11, \$190,000
35 Warwick St, 31 Warwick Street LLC to Eddinger, Janina, 4/11, \$190,000
51 Overlook Ave, Cronin, Timothy and Cronin, Savannah L to Casolo, Jeffrey, 4/13, \$255,000
87 Westfield St, 2019 Chanel LLC to Dannenhoffer, Daniel, 4/11, \$449,000
110 Ridge Rd, Boone, Matthew G and Boone, Noelle C to Coleman, David N, 4/13, \$169,000
143 Newfield St, Cox, Matthew J to Gerry, Tyler, 4/11, \$185,000
165 Crystal Lake Rd, McCutcheon, Ronald W and McCutcheon, Lois E to Sutherland, Uren, 4/6, \$200,000
193 Carriage Crossing Ln Lot 193, Ziembka, Sandra L to Asnani, Supriya S, 4/13, \$167,000
53 Atkins St, Robinson, Deborah J to Gardner, Mark J, 4/11, \$132,500
531 Atkins St, Robinson, Deborah J to Gardner, Mark J, 4/11, \$132,500
12 Edgehill Cir Lot 12, Korogodon, Julianne to Fiteson, Cody L and Fiteson, Kathryn R, 4/11, \$320,000
12 Meadowview Ter, Meadowview Terrace LLC to Mencer, Joseph C and McGinnis, Chelsey A, 4/11, \$640,000
50 Loraine Dr, Dasilva, George P to McIntosh, Thomas and McIntosh, Erin, 4/11, \$475,500
176 Meadows End Rd, Lee, Kenneth J and Lee, Amy L to Oliveira, Leydiene B, 4/11, \$780,000

MILFORD

Odell Ave, Jean F Hanifin RET and Hanifin, Kerry M to Hanifin, Laura, 4/7, \$235,000

MONROE

6 Grassy Hill Rd Lot 6, Kimberly Drosos T and Drosos, Kimberly to Wu, Alexander and Wu, Mansha, 4/11, \$630,000
12 Edgehill Cir Lot 12, Korogodon, Julianne to Fiteson, Cody L and Fiteson, Kathryn R, 4/11, \$320,000
12 Meadowview Ter, Meadowview Terrace LLC to Mencer, Joseph C and McGinnis, Chelsey A, 4/11, \$640,000
50 Loraine Dr, Dasilva, George P to McIntosh, Thomas and McIntosh, Erin, 4/11, \$475,500
176 Meadows End Rd, Lee, Kenneth J and Lee, Amy L to Oliveira, Leydiene B, 4/11, \$780,000

MONTVILLE

7 Evergreen Ln, Murphy, James to McDonald 2nd, Kevin M, 4/12, \$263,000
16 Laurel Dr, Nicholas, Geoffrey W to Chambagne, Kyle C, 4/13, \$270,000

77 Noble Hill Rd, Gregory, Yona to Porter, Blake and Tirado, Jaire, 4/11, \$224,500

162 Maple Ave, Leverage, Michelle G to Delabry, Emily and Delabry, Marc, 4/14, \$190,000

20 Evergreen Passway, Hallock, Beth A and Fitzpatrick, Terry E to Hutter, John and Hutter, Karen, 4/4, \$470,000

NAUGATUCK

Hadoley St, Lee, Elizabeth Est and Reilly, Nancy L to Wyman, Shannon, 4/14, \$235,000

18 Bridge St Lot 4B, Barese 3rd, Joseph and Nunner, David C to Hernandez, Jose R and Hernandez, Jinaris, 4/11, \$75,000

67 Allerton Rd, Lapointe, Lisette A to Luna, Pablo J, 4/14, \$259,000

99 Lantern Park Dr Lot 3, Zameer, Mohamed and Ramzeen, Silmyia to Thomas, Woodrow and Thomas, Joanne, 4/12, \$140,000

145 Lantern Park Dr Lot 7, Cardillo, Nicole to Leon, Alexandra, 4/11, \$120,000

197 High St, Ahmed, Emad and Ahmed, Judith G to Gendron, Kevin and Gairing, William, 4/11, \$158,100

435 Hillside Ave, Mary E Mannweiler T and Crawford, Julie to Gumbrecht, Christopher, 4/12, \$425,000

451 Church St, Flabeg Technical Glass US to Naugatuck Glass LLC, 4/12, \$417,296

627 Millville Ave Lot 9-11, Dasilva, Tatiana F and Dasilva, Andrew A to Diaz, Madeline, 4/13, \$135,000

NEW BRITAIN

Joshua Ln, Celone, Ralph and Celone, Mark to Andersen, John and Andersen, Tamara, 4/11, \$169,000

21 Tremont St, Lima, Ellen to White, Whitney, 4/12, \$360,000

26 W Pearl St, Rashaw-Fantarella, K A to Jimenez, Cynthia, 4/8, \$187,900

28 Horace St, Kasztelek Krystyn K Est and Biset, Holly M to Kasperkiewicz, Krzysztof, 4/11, \$395,000

31 Richmond Ave, Suski Leonard Est and Suski-Lenczewski, Anna to 84 Prospect LLC, 4/12, \$120,000

40 Santo Ct, Kowalewski, Waldemar J and Kowalewski, Barbara M to Mikolajczyk, Jacek, 4/8, \$285,714

69 Roberts St, Lewis, Webster to Grand Manor Hdq LLC, 4/8, \$289,000

88 Maplehurst Ave, Ridgewood Properties LLC to Hernandez, Paulette and Vazquez, Mike, 4/12, \$275,000

96 Clinic Dr, Marconi Enterprises LLC to BSD Clinic LLC, 4/11, \$2,850,000

98 Highview Ave, Avila, Guillermo to Mara, Kostka and Bustos, Elisa-Vianey, 4/12, \$217,000

101 S Burritt St, Meb Real Estate LLC to Brown, Robert K, 4/7, \$300,000

154 Fairview St, Bracer, Denise to Lumine Realty LLC, 4/8, \$260,000

172 Roxbury Rd, Morales Marisol Est and Narvaez, Cristian to Saur, Troy and Langevin, Sara, 4/12, \$246,500

191 Market St Lot 2, Ostrowski, Athene R to Rodriguez, Eugenio V and Mendez, Lydia A, 4/7, \$155,000

192 Glen St, Stanton, Mark to Teitelbaum, Chanie, 4/7, \$270,000

258 Bassett St, Pomeranka Rinehart R Est and Harry, Lisamarie to CT Family Flippers LLC, 4/11, \$210,000

320 S Main St, 320 South Main LLC to 320 S Main St LLC, 4/11, \$350,000

352 Allen St, 352 Allen Street LLC to Wells, David, 4/8, \$275,000

421 Allen St Lot A4, Robinson, Keith to Kania, Alfred, 4/7, \$95,000

2465 Corbin Ave, Boyko, Kimberly A to Choe, Tammy S, 4/8, \$180,000

216 Quinipiac Ave Lot 306, Defilippo,

NEW FAIRFIELD

3 Continental Ave, Testa Jr, Michael S to Corini, Daniel, 4/12, \$330,000
7 Cedar Ln, Hudimatch, Nicholas and Hudimatch, Lauren to Newgent, Anthony and Purcell, Casi, 4/12, \$255,000

13 Rita Dr, Campbell Jr, Edward C to Orozco, Cristian A, 4/11, \$500,000

14 Smoke Hill Dr, Laws Elizabeth M Est and Laws 2nd, Warren P to Dias, Jose K and Dias, Amanda J, 4/14, \$144,000

63 Lake St, Jordan, Kevin M and Jordan, Kristin K to Jeon, Noel and Lee, Christine, 4/11, \$1,825,000

186 Main St, 186 Main St New Hartford to MBE 186 LLC, 4/11, \$250,000

10 Woolsey St, HMD CT LLC to Rivera, Luis, 4/8, \$260,000

25 Batter Ter, Machon, Angel and Saint Peter, Michelle M to Henry, Cornelius, 4/11, \$410,000

37 Center St, Bonanno, Vito and Bonanno, Joann to 137 Center Street LLC, 4/11, \$675,000

46 Prince St Lot 501, CHG Realty LLC to Whin NHRE Inc, 4/8, \$175,000

47 Livingston St Lot 2, Harris, Allison P and Fairdoss, Amir S to Kitchen, Brian D and Burnham, Anne, 4/14, \$399,000

10 Pardee Pl, Home Equity Asset T2005 and US Bank NA to Wenchell, Connor, 4/8, \$242,000

62 Perkins St, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$260,000

69 Mumford Rd Lot 22, Zhou, Haiyu to Michaels, Steven J, 4/12, \$455,000

69 Nash St, Yu, Calvin to Alafagiannis, Rose, A, 4/12, \$507,000

73 Rock Rd, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$170,000

100 York St, Thompson Robert F Est and Thompson, Clark A to Brennan, Judith Q, 4/8, \$120,000

100 York St, Norris Harry L 3rd Est and Gehlbach, Donald to Greenfield, Joyce, 4/13, \$60,000

101 Hazel St Lot B9, Instant Property Solution to Deepak, Atish and Alexis-Brinkley, Karl I, 4/11, \$146,750

120 Lawncrest Rd, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$245,000

139 Fountain St Lot A8, Fitzpatrick, Michael S to Diggs, Kevin, 4/12, \$213,000

168 Clinton Ave, Roque, Manuel A and Gonzalez, Michel M to 63 Chamberlain LLC, 4/8, \$340,000

204 Eastern St, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$120,000

112 Old Pond Ln Lot 112, Forest, Deborah to Starkey, Jennifer M, 4/14, \$122,000

114 Broad St, Cothran Sunrise LLC to Hernandez, Pedro R and Rodriguez, Carmen, 4/11, \$227,995

176 Laurel Hill Ave, Thomas, Justin P and Thomas, Emily A to Parker, Craig G, 4/11, \$215,000

190 S Thames St Lot 14, 190 South Thames St LLC to Misino, John P, 4/11, \$210,000

235 Broad St, Eames, Rose M and Eames, Michael M to Depina, Joao, 4/11, \$120,000

617 N Main St, Steve Meyer LLC to Delisa, Robert and Kunz, Lisa H, 4/12, \$139,000

101 Hazel St Lot B9, Instant Property Solution to Deepak, Atish and Alexis-Brinkley, Karl I, 4/11, \$146,750

120 Lawncrest Rd, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$245,000

139 Fountain St Lot A8, Fitzpatrick, Michael S to Diggs, Kevin, 4/12, \$213,000

168 Clinton Ave, Roque, Manuel A and Gonzalez, Michel M to 63 Chamberlain LLC, 4/8, \$340,000

204 Eastern St, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$120,000

112 Old Pond Ln Lot 112, Forest, Deborah to Starkey, Jennifer M, 4/14, \$122,000

114 Broad St, Cothran Sunrise LLC to Hernandez, Pedro R and Rodriguez, Carmen, 4/11, \$227,995

176 Laurel Hill Ave, Thomas, Justin P and Thomas, Emily A to Parker, Craig G, 4/11, \$215,000

190 S Thames St Lot 14, 190 South Thames St LLC to Misino, John P, 4/11, \$210,000

235 Broad St, Eames, Rose M and Eames, Michael M to Depina, Joao, 4/11, \$120,000

617 N Main St, Steve Meyer LLC to Delisa, Robert and Kunz, Lisa H, 4/12, \$139,000

101 Hazel St Lot B9, Instant Property Solution to Deepak, Atish and Alexis-Brinkley, Karl I, 4/11, \$146,750

120 Lawncrest Rd, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$245,000

139 Fountain St Lot A8, Fitzpatrick, Michael S to Diggs, Kevin, 4/12, \$213,000

168 Clinton Ave, Roque, Manuel A and Gonzalez, Michel M to 63 Chamberlain LLC, 4/8, \$340,000

204 Eastern St, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$120,000

112 Old Pond Ln Lot 112, Forest, Deborah to Starkey, Jennifer M, 4/14, \$122,000

114 Broad St, Cothran Sunrise LLC to Hernandez, Pedro R and Rodriguez, Carmen, 4/11, \$227,995

176 Laurel Hill Ave, Thomas, Justin P and Thomas, Emily A to Parker, Craig G, 4/11, \$215,000

190 S Thames St Lot 14, 190 South Thames St LLC to Misino, John P, 4/11, \$210,000

235 Broad St, Eames, Rose M and Eames, Michael M to Depina, Joao, 4/11, \$120,000

617 N Main St, Steve Meyer LLC to Delisa, Robert and Kunz, Lisa H, 4/12, \$139,000

101 Hazel St Lot B9, Instant Property Solution to Deepak, Atish and Alexis-Brinkley, Karl I, 4/11, \$146,750

120 Lawncrest Rd, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$245,000

139 Fountain St Lot A8, Fitzpatrick, Michael S to Diggs, Kevin, 4/12, \$213,000

REAL ESTATE TRANSACTIONS

from Page 5

Motakis, Efthymios and Lledo, Maria G, 4/11, \$405,000

133 Penn Dr, Venora, Daniel P to Lisowski, Tyler P and Lisowski, Kelly A, 4/11, \$500,000, 245 Whiting Ln, Minker, Jonathan to Meo, David, 4/11, \$327,000

576 Mountain Rd Lot E, Win, Lily A to Gomby, Gary and Gomby, Judith, 4/11, \$357,000

1288 Trout Brook Dr, Wice Marshall Est and Rubin, Susan W to Bluin Investments LLC, 4/12, \$145,000

1383 Boulevard, Albini, Domenic to Lucas 2nd, Wesley H and Lucas, Shauna L, 4/11, \$335,000

WEST HAVEN

1 Peck Ave Lot 1, Milano, Daniel P to Avelino, Lisa, 4/14, \$152,000

17 Susquehanna Ave, First Class Investments to Mullen, Patrick, 4/14, \$400,000

23 Bristol St, Cranick, Paul to Miller, Pasha K, 4/12, \$264,000

57 Washington Manor Ave, Melendez, Desires to Waheguruji LLC, 4/11, \$295,000

84 W Walk Lot 84, Keller, Craig M and Keller, Deborah M to Marston, Sean J and Marston, Jessica D, 4/11, \$185,000

87 Morris St, Gibson, Edward to Bishop, Cynthia, 4/14, \$265,000

89 W Walk Lot 89, Oberempt, Megan I to Chomiak Jr, Robert J, 4/13, \$190,000

119 Thomas St, Candelora, Ronald to Goose Nodes LLC, 4/11, \$250,000

155 Bull Hill Ln Lot 309, Josephine R Wheaton RET and Wheaton, Josephine R to Bhavana-Gopagani, Reshma, 4/11, \$100,000

223 W Walk Lot 223, Maher, Robert E and Montz, Christopher to Gloria Valente IRT and Holt, Linda, 4/14, \$160,000

330 Savin Ave Lot 9, Lafontaine, Ann M to Newsom, Jennifer, 4/12, \$129,000

386 Union Ave, Gee, Tammy to Alexander, Elizabeth, 4/13, \$245,000

433 Painter Dr, Bozelko William Jr Est and Ippolito, Alphonse to Rosewood Home Builders, 4/13, \$39,000

WESTBROOK

66 Brookwood Dr, Porter, Bradford J and Porter, Melissa X to Grappone 3rd, James A and Grappone, Maria A, 4/12, \$195,000

659 W Pond Meadow Rd, Hoefferle, Anne and Hoefferle, John to Farrell, Angela and Farrell, Ashling, 4/14, \$558,200

WESTON

4 Brookwood Ln, Shair, Gerald and Usher, Hazel G to Thompson, Craig A and Thompson, Michael C, 4/13, \$490,000

9 Scatacock Trl, Giltn, Shannon D to Levitt, Joelle and Levitt, Noah A, 4/12, \$1,190,000

21 Twin Oak Ln, Mullan, Paul H to Blanc, Johan, 4/13, \$2,322,500

63 Old Easton Tpk, Loerber, Lawrence J to Brines, Laura M and Didsbury, Ryan, 4/11, \$1,200,000

WESTPORT

2 Hyatt Ln, Blandino, Carl D and Blandino, Donna J to Shara Mendelson T and Mendelson, Shara, 4/13, \$2,800,000

7 Minard Dr, Frasco, David W to Baehr, Sarah and Baehr, Andrew, 4/13, \$1,504,000

9 Burr Farms Rd, Srivas, Mandayam C and Srivas, Shobha to Beemer, Zachary H and Beemer, Michella M, 4/12, \$4,572,000

15 Half Mile Cmn, Mullin Jacqueline E Est and Mullin, Jeffrey L to Hannon, Liam B and Kelly, Shannon N, 4/14, \$635,000

32 Tamarac Rd, Rubin, Gregory and Spyres, Jenny J to Lloyd, Christopher B and Lloyd, Ali N, 4/11, \$2,015,000

52 Charcoal Hill Rd, Laudico, Anthony T and Laudico, Lisa to Genevieve Labean T and Rosen, Andrew, 4/11, \$2,800,000

55 Woodside Ave, Griffiths, Warren S and Griffiths, Maria G to Johnson, Matthew A and Krichels, Jennifer W, 4/13, \$1,538,000

106 Harvest Crmns Lot 106, Saxony LLC to Leonidov, Sergey and Kolata, Joanne, 4/13, \$850,000

220 Riverwalk Ave Lot 8, Sorensen, David A and Sorensen, Laurie D to McAndrews, Eileen A, 4/13, \$975,000

WETHERSFIELD

199 Ridge Rd, Safer, Amanda R to Wescott, Timothy and Wescott, Cynthia, 4/12, \$400,000

215 Hang Dog Ln, Tara Cope T and Boorman, Peter to Adams, Gregory and Adams, Kathryn, 4/12, \$450,000

292 Silas Deane Hwy, Franklin Mic LLC to Bell, Zenna E, 4/11, \$259,000

WILLINGTON

99 Balazs Rd, Froehlich, Joseph J and Froehlich, Patricia M to Oliver, Thomas N and Oliver, Tracey L, 4/8, \$310,000

WILTON

N/A Lot 3, Lamantia, Francis T and Lamantia, Wendy H to Robin Wilder 2012 IRT and Wilder, Robin, 4/12, \$1,415,000

12 Woodway Ln, Earner, Stephen N and Earner, Mary T to Forlizzi, Matthew S and Forlizzi, Julianne M, 4/13, \$1,412,500

233 Catalpa Rd, Helms, Katharina R to Aloisi, Peter S and Aloisi, Kathryn N, 4/14, \$1,436,000

252 Mountain Rd, Dimatteo, Linda to Mousafa, Ahmed and Tsapeleva, Yulia, 4/11, \$1,045,000

WINCHESTER

6 Colony Dr, Kramek, Kyle J to Kittelsen, Leif, 4/12, \$224,000

11 Munro St, Teddick, Michael E and Teddick, Deborah Fantarella, Kathleen A and Fantarella, Vincent J, 4/11, \$130,000

18 Walnut St, Gursky, David S to Shabani, Fatou and Shabani, Linkesta, 4/13, \$275,000

63 Birdsall St, Juma, Ahmad to Dasilva, Vrapago, Joseph C, 4/11, \$110,000

123 Stanton Ave, Paris, Jeremiah A to Born, Christopher C and Born, Christine C, 4/11, \$160,000

WINDHAM

4 Stony Ridge Rd, USA VA to Desrocher, Madison R and Grover, Ryan J, 4/13, \$212,000

10 Ann St, Carter, Brenna A to Gross, Kathryn, 4/12, \$237,000

31 Welden Dr, Musket, Diana and Ingemi, Christina to Hipsky, Laurie A and Dybdahl, Jan A, 4/13, \$297,900

370 Pleasant St, Barrett, Raymond and Barrett, Ruchelle to Lyon, Stephen, 4/12, \$221,000

1060 Main St, TGM Properties LLC to Derichi LLC, 4/11, \$250,000

1068 Main St, TGM Properties LLC to Derichi LLC, 4/11, \$250,000

WINDSOR

10 Amolia Farms Rd, Mui, Danny to Schmucker, Daniel G and Schmucker, Hawa D, 4/15, \$710,000

17 Greenfield St, Mullaney, Danielle M and Lugo, Leesandro to Stepanek, Sherry, 4/11, \$242,000

40 Allen St, Apk Stanley Investments to Francia, Tyler and Auretta, Molly, 4/12, \$215,000

41 Bradford Dr, Depaola Jr, Joseph and Depaola, Nicole to Geary, Shane C, 4/11, \$310,000

44 Craigs Rd, Cellini, Joan M to Rosa, Francois, 4/11, \$232,000

48 London Rd, Blanchard Mary M Est and Blanchard, David F to Aguillon, Arturo, 4/11, \$170,000

575 Bloomfield Ave, Wassell, Elsie A to Strother 2nd, William B, 4/14, \$220,000

633 Stone Rd, Newgate Builders Inc to Bennett, Nadine and Bennett, Frank, 4/12, \$490,000

WINDS LOCKS

77 N Main St, Bashunov, Alexander and Alexander, Grace P to Samuels, Shane and Samuels, Lovely S, 4/12, \$280,000

519 Spring St, Sponzo&Associates LLC to Windsor Locks Town Of, 4/12, \$599,900

WOLCOTT

3 Tame Buck Rd, North Star Condominium to Barton, Danita, 4/11, \$289,000

252 Todd Rd, Awadalla, Amira and Elsayed, Ahmed to Hernandez, Ivan, 4/14, \$264,900

WOODBRIDGE

16 Pine Rd, Ross, David A and Ross, Shana to Dranoff, Jonathan and Dranoff, Rachel, 4/14, \$655,000

60 Northrop Rd, Northrop Road Prop LLC to Velardi, Steven C and Velardi, Jessica, 4/14, \$785,000

WOODBURY

Lighthouse Rd, Chester C Hardisty T and Hanrahan, Susan to Frase, Jason, 4/14, \$290,000

Stone Pit Rd, Hardisty, Christopher C to Frase, Jason, 4/14, \$30,000

Stone Pit Rd, Chester C Hardisty T and Hanrahan, Susan to Frase, Jason, 4/14, \$30,000

229 Bacon Pond Rd Lot 141, Sturges, Michael to Blodgette LLC, 4/12, \$109,500

538 Grassy Hill Rd, Salomone, Peter to Antcl, Philip J and Antcl, Marjorie A, 4/12, \$283,000

623 Upper Grassy Hill Rd, Adams, Randy and Guardiola, Jessica D to Harwell, Leslie, 4/12, \$825,000

WOODSTOCK

Center Rd, Durst, John A and Durst, Christine L to Fourtellotte, Lydia, 4/14, \$89,900

Prospect St, Porter, H Douglas to Felt, Linda C and Felt, Douglas O, 4/11, \$495,000

46 Marcy Rd, Saracina, Robert M and Dexter, Amy L to Egulow, Alexandra M, 4/14, \$251,000

1139 Route 171, Fura, Michael J to Helmin, David A and Helmin, Michelle G, 4/11, \$407,000

Nostalgic garden flowers worth revisiting

Newer plants lack charm, aroma of old-fashioned ones

By Jessica Damiano

Associated Press

In Thornton Wilder's 1938 play, "Our Town," heliotrope flowers connect two sets of characters who gather to inhale their intoxicating scent in the moonlight. Heliotropes, then common, are, indeed, wonderfully fragranced. Yet somehow, they've fallen out of favor in American gardens.

Many one-time garden staples from the Victorian era through the 1950s have been replaced with hybrids and compact bedding plants, many of which lack the charm, aroma and simple nostalgia of their predecessors.

HERE ARE EIGHT VINTAGE GARDEN FLOWERS WORTH REVISITING:

Four O'Clocks (*Mirabilis jalapa*, *Mirabilis multiflora*) Fragrant white, red, pink, purple, yellow or bi-color trumpet-shaped flowers open daily in late afternoon and bloom from spring through frost in full to part sun. Plants are low-maintenance, drought-resistant and perennial in zones 8-10. Treat as annuals elsewhere, although they do self-seed readily. Their sweet, lemony scent and shape are a magnet for bees, butterflies and hummingbirds.

Cosmos (*Cosmos bipinnatus*) Frilly daisy-like flowers bloom profusely on plants with lacy foliage from early summer through frost. Some varieties are perennial in warmer climates, while others are annual everywhere, but all self-seed, ensuring repeat performances in most gardens for years to come. Plant them in full sun, except for in southern-most areas, where they'll appreciate a bit of shade. Available in yellow, pink, orange, red, purple, white and maroon.

Sweet peas (*Lathyrus odoratus*) Clusters of dainty, ruffled, pink, purple, red, white or bi-color flowers bloom on annual vining plants during spring and early summer. Sweet peas perfume the air with a fragrance reminiscent of grapes. Plant in full sun in northern zones but provide some afternoon shade in the South.

Q: I plan to surprise my family with a new kitchen faucet. I want to get a pull-out faucet with spray options that are useful for everyone in the house. I enjoy your plumbing recommendations, so what spray head features do you like?

A: Ever since pullout and pull-down-style kitchen faucets became popular,



Hollyhock flowers come in pink, purple, peach, red, white, yellow or near-black and cover 8-foot stalks. **AMERICAN MEADOWS**

Kiss me over the garden gate (*Persicaria orientalis*)

A favorite of Thomas Jefferson, this easy-care annual, which quickly grows to 6 feet tall, is perfect for the back of the border. Eye-catching clusters of dangling pink flowers self-sow to ensure a steady supply of plants for years to come. In areas with cold winters, sow seeds directly into the garden in autumn; in frost-free climates, chill them in the freezer for a week before sowing outdoors.

Hollyhocks (*Alcea rosea*)

Pink, purple, peach, red, white, yellow or near-black flowers completely cover 8-foot stalks from top to bottom. The large-leaved plants are biennial, which means they live for two years and bloom only in their second year, but they do self-seed, so there will always be more on deck.

Plant them in full sun in the north and part shade in hot climates, and provide a fence, trellis or stake for support.

English primroses (*Primula vulgaris*)

Although there are



The sweetly scented heliotrope flower in the dark purple variety is an old-time garden favorite. **PROVEN WINNERS**

nearly 500 species of primroses available in many colors today, your great-grandmother's spring garden likely included these yellow-flowered standards. The short-lived perennials are hardy in



Wendy Kaufman stands in her packed garage April 12 with her daughter Jaedyn, 19, and son Julian, 14 in Doral, Florida. The Kaufmans moved from Germany and have been unable to find a big enough home that they can afford. MARTA LAVANDIER/AP

Buyers stymied by fewer homes, higher prices

By Alex Veiga
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Shortly after moving to South Florida for a new job with the U.S. military, Shannon Kaufman and his wife, Wendy, signed up for a whole other mission: buying a home.

For months, they scoured listings, strategizing late into the night on which homes to target and working out how much they could afford, even if it meant using some of their retirement savings.

After visiting 200 listings and making offers on 15 homes that ultimately didn't pan out, the Kaufmans finally found a home that fits at least some of their needs. They'll be renting it, however.

"We found a place that's smaller than we want, but it'll work until we have something built or until the market cools off," said Shannon Kaufman, 47.

America's housing market has grown increasingly frenzied, and prices are out of reach for many buyers, especially first-timers.

This spring, traditionally the busiest season for home sales, is more likely to deliver frustration and disappointment for aspiring homebuyers than it is

homeownership.

The number of homes for sale nationally remains near record lows, fueling fierce competition among buyers vying for fewer homes. From Los Angeles to Raleigh, North Carolina, when a house does hit the market, it typically sells within days.

Bidding wars are common, often driving the sale price well above what the owner was asking. And would-be buyers planning to finance their purchase with a home loan are often losing out to investors and others able to buy a home with cash. A quarter of all homes sold in February were purchased with cash, up from 22% a year ago, according to the National Association of Realtors.

Real estate investors accounted for 19% of transactions in February, up from 17% a year ago.

Nichol Khan, a project manager, and her husband Ed moved to Mesa, Arizona, from Phoenix two years ago to shorten their commute to work.

Home prices in the Phoenix area have jumped 20% from a year ago to \$500,000, according to Realtor.com.

"The prices just keep going up and up," Khan said.

The couple has lost

out on more than a dozen homes they bid on. Some of the homes ended up selling for less in cash than the couple had offered.

"We don't have \$500,000 in cash," said Khan, 42. "We just could not be competitive with that."

Fewer homes on the market and high prices have been the hallmark of the housing market for the past 10 years or so. Now, rising mortgage rates further complicate the homebuying equation. Higher rates could limit the pool of buyers and cool the rate of home price growth — good news for buyers. But higher rates also weaken their buying power.

The average rate on a 30-year home loan has climbed to around 4.7%. A year ago, average rates hovered just above 3%, according to mortgage buyer Freddie Mac. The increase follows a sharp move up in 10-year Treasury yields, reflecting expectations of higher interest rates overall as the Federal Reserve moves to hike short-term rates in order to combat surging inflation.

Would-be buyers who applied for a home loan in February faced a median monthly mortgage payment of \$1,653, including principal and interest, an increase

of 8.3% from a year ago, according to the Mortgage Bankers Association.

"It's hard to believe, but I do think it's going to be tougher this year, in some respects, than it was in previous years," said Danielle Hale, Realtor.

com's chief economist. "So far, at least, we have seen the number of homes for sale continue to decline and prices continue to rise. Those two factors combined suggest that the competitive market is going to keep buyers on their toes."

Buyers should set their sights on homes that are listed well within what they can afford, experts say.

"You should be looking 15%-20% below their limit; that gives them room for appraisal gaps, it gives them room for negotiating," said Tracy Hutton, a broker with Century 21 in Indianapolis.

Being well-prepared sometimes isn't enough when a homeowner prefers to accept an all-cash offer, rather than sell to a buyer with financing.

Wendy Kaufman in South Florida couldn't even get into an open house for a property on the market after she revealed the couple had a mortgage backed by the Veterans Administration.

"When they saw I had a

VA preapproval they said, 'Sorry we don't want to work with you,'" she said.

Sometimes, buyers don't have a chance to make an offer before a home is snapped up, sight unseen.

In the Miami area, so-called "blind offers" have become common as a way to get around other buyers, said Rafael Corrales, a Redfin agent.

One reason is the ultralow level of homes for sale, which for the greater Miami metropolitan area, was down 55% in February from a year ago, according to Realtor.com.

While every market is unique, there is one common hurdle across the U.S.: affordability. The median U.S. home price jumped 15% in February from a year earlier to \$357,300, according to the National Association of Realtors.

The San Jose, California, metro area had 40% fewer homes for sale in February than a year ago, according to Realtor.com. Buyers there have to navigate some of the most expensive home prices in the nation. The median home listing price climbed 13.3% to about \$1.36 million in February from a year earlier.

The market trends are a bit more welcoming for buyers in the Midwest,

including the Indianapolis metropolitan area, where the number of homes for sale was down about 23% from a year ago. The median home price there stood at \$287,000 in February, up 8.5% from a year earlier.

Those trends made for a more competitive market for first-time buyers like Lisa Piercy and her husband, Alex Berardo.

First-time buyers made up 29% of all homes sold nationally last month. That share has averaged 31% annually over the past 10 years.

The couple began looking in December for homes at \$350,000 or below. They offered \$5,000 over the asking price on two properties but lost out to rival bidders.

"That was all we could afford," said Lisa Piercy, a 32-year-old project manager. "It's really defeating, really disappointing."

In the end, the couple bought a townhome in a new construction community, though they see it as a stepping stone to a more spacious house with a big yard.

"It's big enough that we can still start our family and then move when the market hopefully dies down in a couple of years," she said.

Students get lessons in real estate as rents skyrocket

By Lauren Peace
Tampa Bay Times

TAMPA, Fla. — "I wish they'd taught me that in school."

It's a line Realtor Kella McCaskill has heard a lot from people in her community when talking about housing.

From mortgage agreements to down-payment assistance, to rent-to-buy options and savings plans, McCaskill said many people, especially those without a parent to turn to as example, don't start thinking about real estate and financial literacy until well into adulthood. In a housing market like Tampa Bay's, that's years too late.

It's something McCaskill is looking to change.

On a Wednesday afternoon, after music class and before starting English homework, students at LinaBean Academy, a private school in East Tampa, filled a small classroom and began scrawling

equations onto notebooks. McCaskill stood at the front of the room.

Twice monthly, she visits the school for hour-long real estate workshops.

The theme of the lessons change each time they meet, but the goal remains to get students thinking about their financial futures and to normalize conversations about housing affordability and financial hardship as the city changes.

"We want our kids to be thinking about the real world," said Ischolina Williams, who founded the school back in 2016. "We're teaching life lessons."

This particular Wednesday, McCaskill talked with students about rent control, rental assistance programs and how much is okay to spend on housing.

"What's the cost of the average one-bedroom in Tampa?" she asked.

Anari Dula, 14, opened a hot pink laptop and pulled up the website Rent Cafe.

"Like \$1,800 a month,"

he said.

"Right. That's just a one-bedroom," McCaskill said. "Now the rule is you don't want to spend more than 30 percent of your income on housing. So how much would you have to make to afford to live here right now?"

The students' eyes widened.

"Exactly. That's the problem," McCaskill said.

Williams said she started LinaBean Academy to serve kids with special needs, such as attention-deficit hyperactivity disorder and autism, or those facing learning barriers stemming from challenges at home. She said she sees the school as an investment in the future of her community, where child poverty rates are high and opportunity is sometimes limited.

Most of the students who attend the school receive tax-funded scholarships, she said, and the increasing costs of rent has been a big issue.

"We've had several chil-



Amaryss Robinson, 13, takes notes March 23 during a real estate lesson led by local Realtor Kella McCaskill at Linabean Academy in Tampa, Florida. ARIELLE BADER/TAMPA BAY TIMES

dren that have become homeless in our school," Williams said. "We try to make sure they understand what's going on around them. We want to empower them with information so they know that they can plan for a future they want."

Amaryss Robinson, 13, said that's what she likes so much about the real estate workshops run by McCaskill.

"It's important for us to learn this now because

when we get older, we don't have to just take care of us, we're going to have to take care of our parents as well," Robinson said. "We've got to focus so we'll know what to do. Because we've already learned from other people's mistakes."

The workshops extend beyond lessons in the classroom. Williams said she wants students to be civically engaged and understand the role that their government plays.

Earlier this year, students from the school took a trip to ask that lawmakers in Tallahassee take steps to make Florida housing more affordable and slow down rent increases.

"We're learning, we're being responsible, but how are lawmakers going to help," Robinson asked. "Because we're in a crisis right now, and everyone's got to do their part to make sure that people can afford to live."

ASK THE BUILDER

Bringing stamped concrete back to life

By Tim Carter
Tribune Content Agency

If you've witnessed hundreds and hundreds of full moons in your lifetime and make frequent use of your critical-thinking skills, you know the sun is constantly at work ruining things inside and outside your home. One of these might be the expensive stamped-concrete patio, driveway or sidewalk you had installed a few years ago.

The same thing happens with exterior wood stains and sealers. I just concluded a fascinating test of a certain exterior wood stain, and it looks fantastic after two years of harsh exposure to the sun. I'm convinced I may get another two years out of it, but eventually it will succumb to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays.

You may wonder what is the exact mechanism that caused your stamped concrete, which you were probably told would look good for decades, to fade and look dull after as little as three to five years. A few years ago, while I was doing research for "Roofing Ripoff," my exposé of the shingle industry, I discovered a small percentage of the sun's UV rays contain active photons.

These photons are like miniature cruise missiles. When they strike fabrics, wood stains, paint, wood, certain soft metals and so forth, they can blast apart molecules and even break atomic bonds. Imagine photons being so strong they can break the atomic bonds of copper, zinc and lead! This is why the zinc coating on metal roofs disappears and why roof surfaces are free of algae and mold below copper and lead flashings. The atoms broken off by the UV rays wash down the roof with each rainfall and create a poisoned field where algae



Stamped concrete color can fade and start to look shabby. You need to use another material for long-lasting color. **TIM CARTER**

and mold can't survive.

Knowing this, I believe you can now see why the solid pigments used by the stamped-concrete installers are child's play for the UV rays striking your pavement.

The photons simply destroy the pigments over time. But the problem is twofold. The pigments are really not much different than a ganache icing on a birthday cake.

The color in your stamped concrete comes

from pigments that have the consistency of cake flour for the most part.

The concrete finisher broadcasts these dry pigments on top of the wet concrete and uses a wide float to get them to mix with the Portland cement paste that is coating the particles of sand and gravel in a thin top layer of the concrete.

This cement paste covering is extremely thin. While the cement paste can be sticky and bond well to the

sand and gravel, it can be worn off with normal foot traffic and regular rainfall.

Pressure washing a pigmented concrete slab is the kiss of death. Nothing ruins the appearance of stamped concrete faster than pressure washing its surface. I have photographs at AsktheBuilder.com comparing new and pressure-washed colored concrete paving bricks. The difference is like night and day.

When you remove this

ultra-thin coating of colorized cement paste from the sand and gravel in the concrete, you begin to see the actual color of those components. What's more, if you look closely at these stones, you'll discover they're often quite smooth.

Think how poorly a normal liquid stain adheres to a piece of glass — not well.

There are two methods that work to add color to concrete or previously stained stamped concrete. You can use reactive or

nonreactive stains. The reactive acid stains contain metallic salts that can chemically react with the Portland cement paste and add color. The nonreactive stains are normally just films that try to adhere to the concrete, sand and gravel.

You simply need to manage your expectations when using either of these products, keeping in mind what the photons are going to do. They, as well as high-pressure, concentrated streams of water, will eventually cause the restoration stains to fade and not look so good. How long will it take? That's the million-dollar question!

If you want your paving to hold a beautiful color for the truly long haul, you need to use traditional paving brick or natural stone. The color of the clay is solid throughout each brick. If you buy bricks that have a severe-weathering rating, they can withstand decades of Mother Nature's abuse. Just travel to Athens, Ohio and marvel at the paving brick still visible on a few downtown streets. It's unchanged since it was installed well over 100 years ago.

As for stone, the color range might not be as wide as with paving brick, but it stands up to the elements like nothing else. Granite is a great example. Think of how the color of granite never changes over time. You know this to be true if you visit cemeteries on a regular basis and note the granite headstones.

Granite cobblestones may be available to you in a wide variety of different muted colors. There's a stunning red granite bedrock on Mt. Desert Island, Maine, but that quarry has long since ceased operation. White or light-gray granite is usually the cobblestone I see in stock at most stone supply businesses.

FREE PUZZLES & GAMES

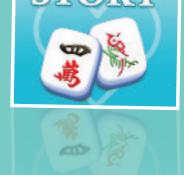
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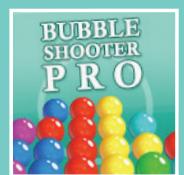
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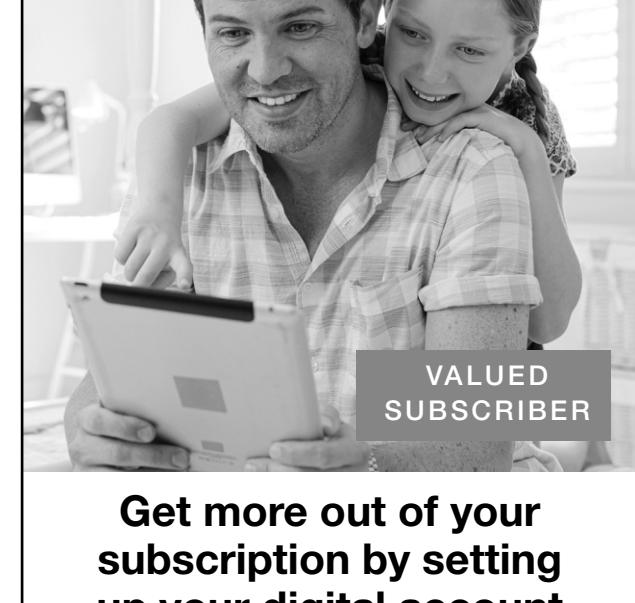


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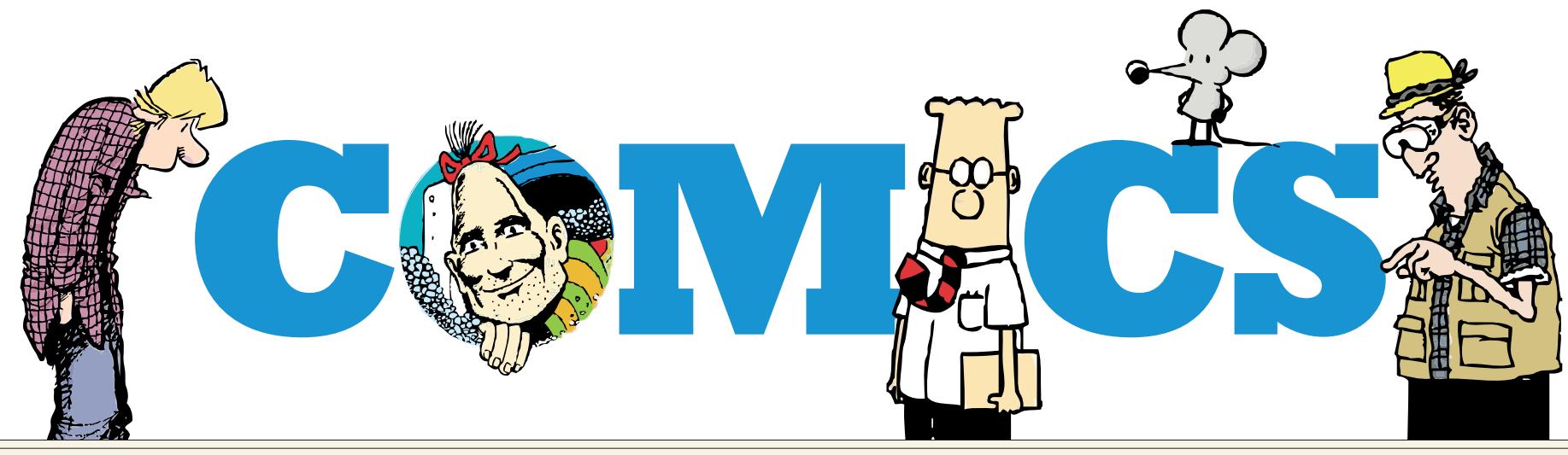
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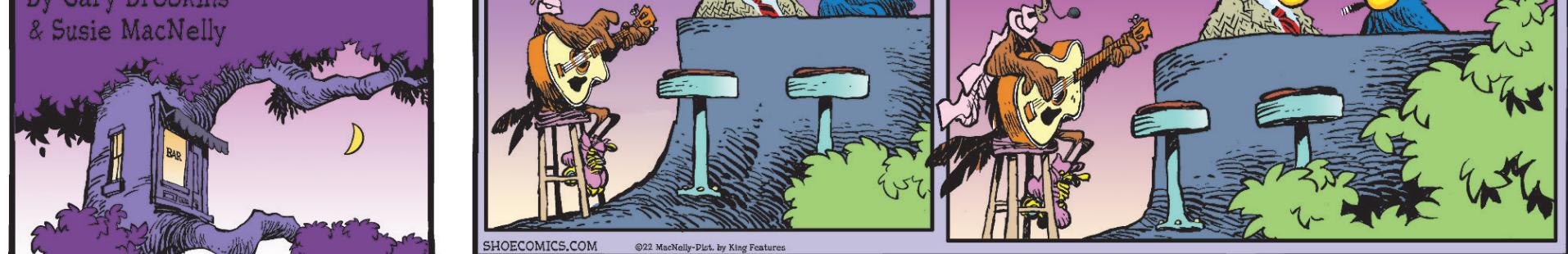
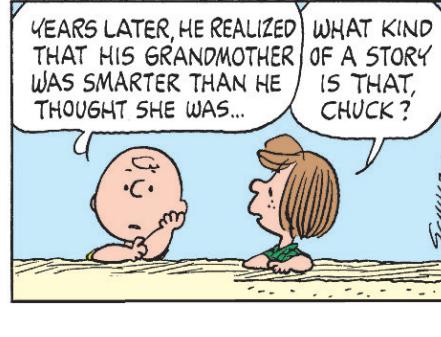
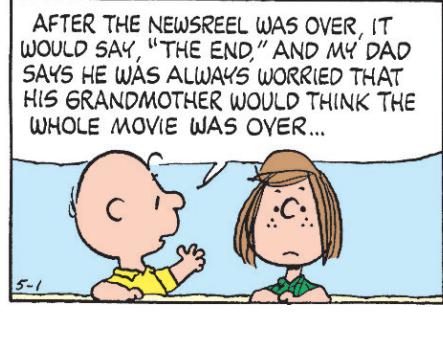
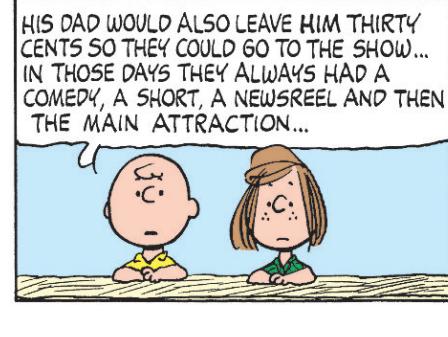
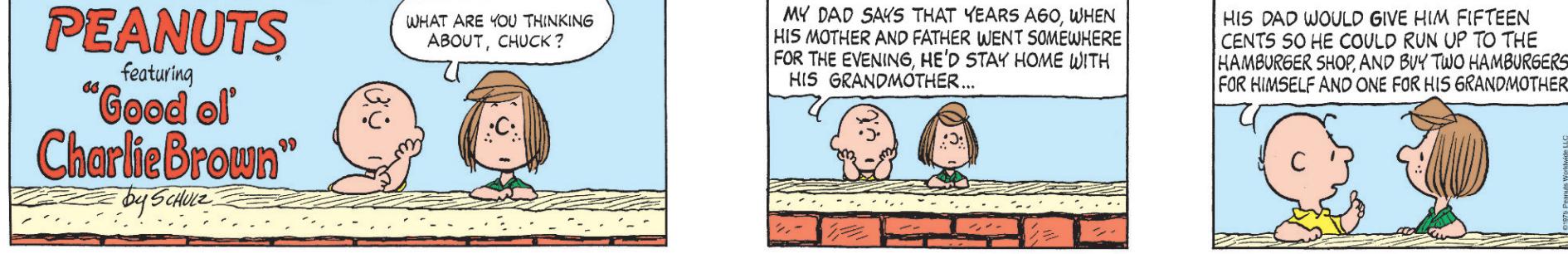
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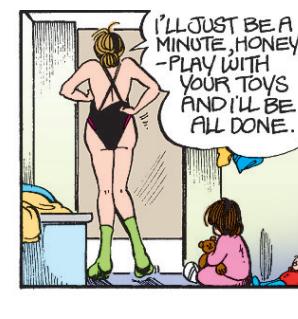
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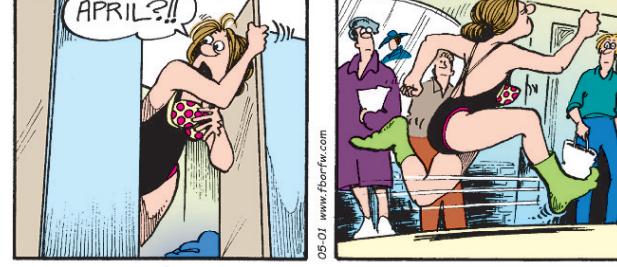
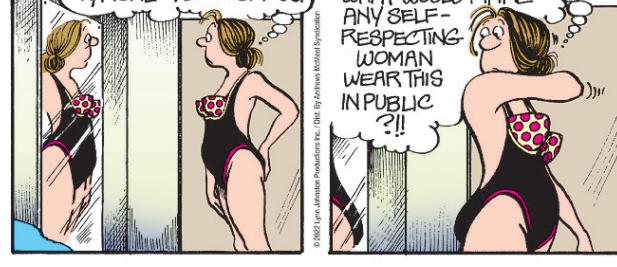
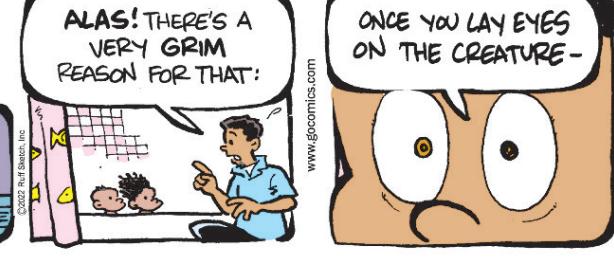


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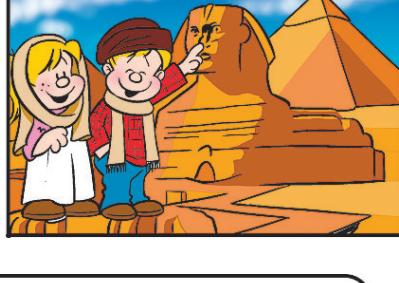
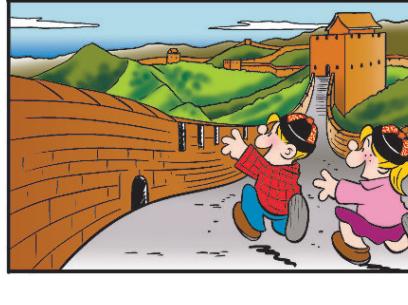
By Lynn Johnston



BUT EYEWITNESS ACCOUNTS ARE FEW AND FAR BETWEEN...



Hi and Lois

by
BRIAN
AND
GREG
WALKER

DOONESBURY

by G.B. Trudeau

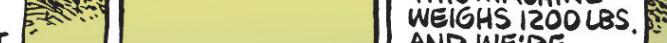
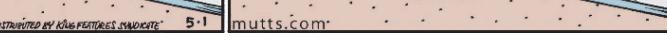
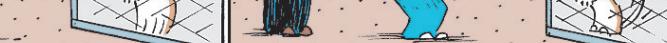
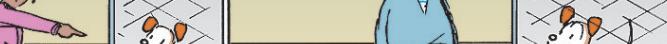
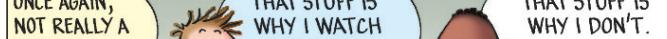


FRAZZ



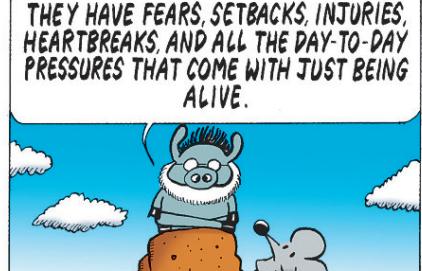
WE ALL KNOW ABOUT ALEX HONNOLD, WHO METHODICALLY SCALED EL CAPITAN AND OTHER WALLS, UNROPED, WHERE ONE MISSTEP WOULD MEAN HIS DOOM.

BUT HOW ABOUT KILIAN JONET, WHO TRAVERSES RIDGES EQUALLY PRECIPITOUS AND ONLY SLIGHTLY LESS TECHNICAL, BUT WHILE RUNNING AT SPEEDS THAT WOULD BE DICEY NAVIGATING A SUBURBAN SIDEWALK?



PEARLS BEFORE SWINE

BY STEPHAN PASTIS

**ROSE IS ROSE**

By Pat Brady & Don Wimmer



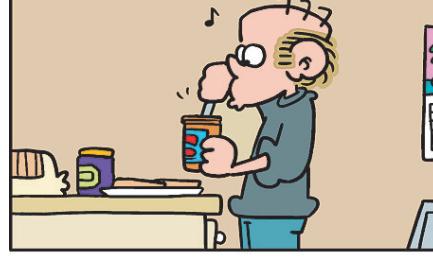
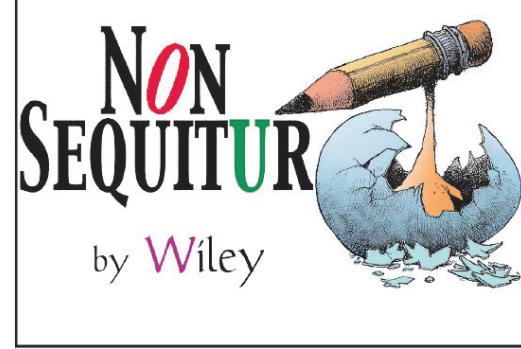
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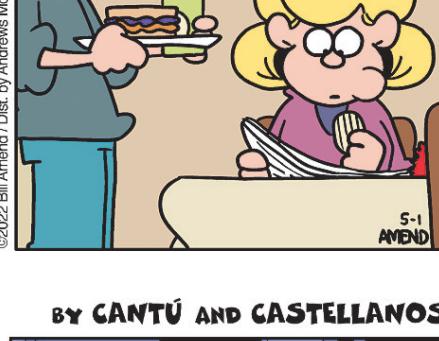
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FoxTrot

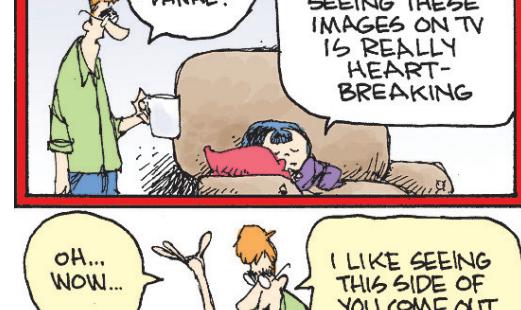
by Bill Amend



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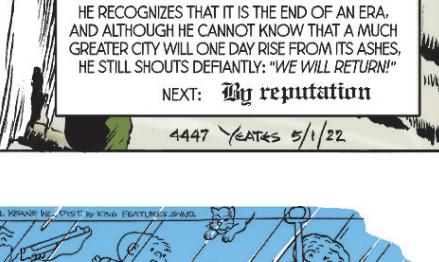
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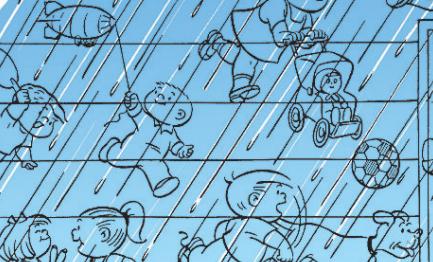
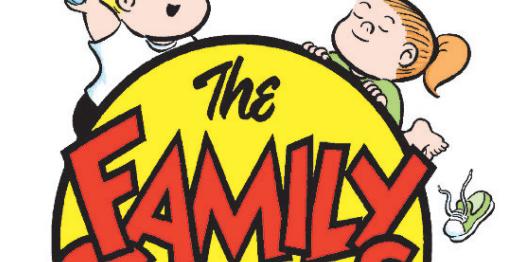
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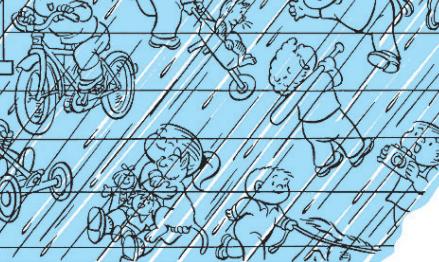
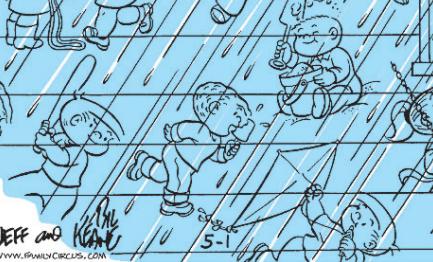
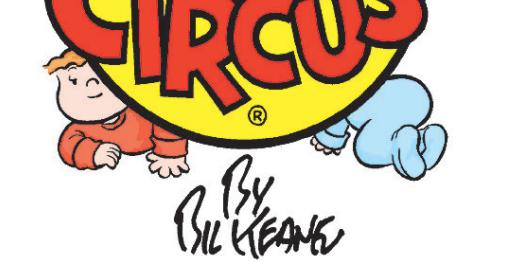
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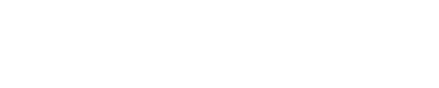
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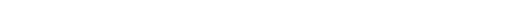
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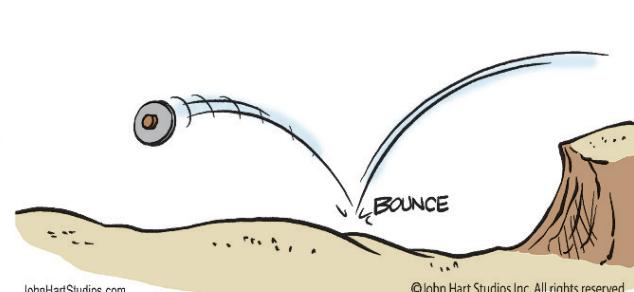
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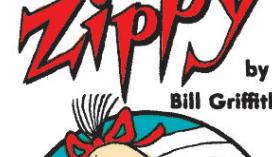
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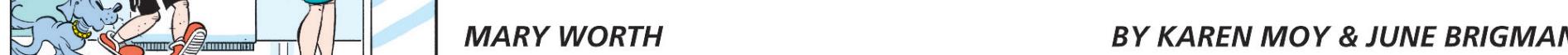
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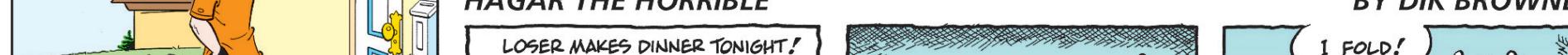
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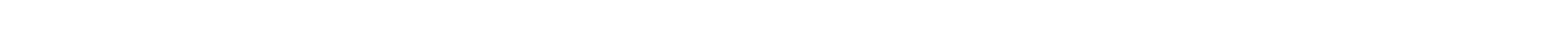
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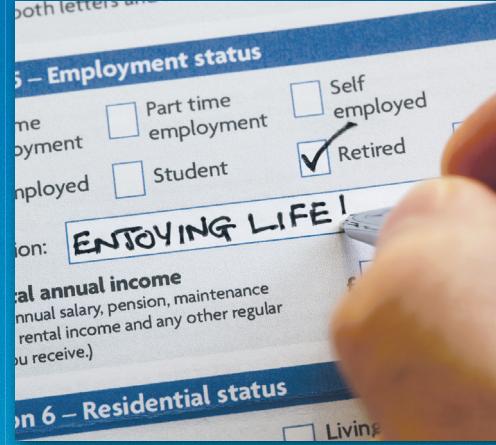
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Senior SOLUTIONS



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At Benchmark Senior Living at Hamden, a community known statewide for its high levels of resident service and home to

many retired nurses, where trips for ice cream, spring wreath-making classes and Art at Heart painting keep residents connected and engaged.

For residents of The Village at Kensington Place in Meriden, a frequent reader's choice award winner for best assisted living, corn hole games, barre exercise classes and planting gardens are just some of the ways they pursue their passions.

Rather than being isolated at home, many residents like Julio DiCarlo, who reside at The Village at South Farms in Middletown, are up every day at 8AM where they enjoy breakfast and programs like Bollywood dancing, pampering massages and off-site trips for activities like salt therapy all day long with friends.

A few years ago, Julio moved into the community from Staten Island and is now fondly known as a member of "The Three Amigos," a trio of male

residents who quickly became fast friends.

"I really feel like I'm back to living la dolce vita or the good life. It's destiny, and I can't imagine living anywhere else," says Julio.

At communities like The Atrium at Rocky Hill, which specialize exclusively in Mind & Memory Care for those with Alzheimer's and dementia, associates take pride in celebrating residents' lives and tailoring care and experiences to their individual needs. Trips to see spring flowers in bloom and programs like Thursday tea parties complete with delicious pastries cultivate a sense of belonging and purpose.

Regardless of each residents' abilities, Benchmark's Something in Common program makes it possible for all residents to engage in what excites them and nurture connections with others. Upon moving in, residents' interests

are pinpointed, matched to community programs and relationships with neighbors are facilitated.

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Shopping for assisted living facilities

When failing physical or mental health affects one's ability to be independent and live safety at home, moving into an assisted living facility may be the next step.

As people age, oftentimes their living arrangements need to be adjusted. Needs evolve as children move out or other situations arise. One of the scenarios that may come to pass as a person ages is the need for more specialized help that just isn't possible at home. .

When failing physical or mental health affects one's ability to be independent and live safety at home, moving into an assisted living facility may be the next step. The National Center for Assisted Living indicates assisted living offers the little bit of help some people need when they can no longer manage living alone. Typically, these facilities provide assistance with bathing or dressing, medication management and other care, while also catering to people who may not require the around-the-clock medical care most often associated with nursing homes.

Vetting is an important component of finding assisted living facilities. Family caregivers need to educate themselves about services, costs and other resources provided by assisted living facilities. AARP says assisted living facilities provide residents with a range of services that can include supervision, meals, housekeeping, laundry, and personal care. Residents usually have their own apartments or private rooms. Because they are



When failing physical or mental health affects one's ability to be independent and live safety at home, moving into an assisted living facility may be the next step.

mostly regulated at state level in the United States, there is a lot of variety among these facilities. That means family caregivers need to assess their needs and desires in a facility to find the right one that fits. Assisted living facilities offer a home-like environment, and the amenities available vary based on cost.

Paying for assisted living differs from paying for nursing homes. Largely government-subsidized health programs like Medicare and Medicaid pay for nursing

home care. Those who would be best serviced by assisted living may find they may not qualify for government support, nor may the facilities accept anything other than private payment or long-term care insurance to cover room and board.

Other considerations in assisted living facilities are size, specialties, atmosphere, location, and the ability to transition to higher forms of care. Assisted living may fill a void currently, but it's often not a

permanent situation for all, and eventually certain residents may have to move on to skilled care facilities. Potential residents and their families should visit various assisted living facilities to get a feel for what they are like.

Speak with the staff and residents, request a meal and get a sense of the environment. Apart from cost, how the home feels, is one of the most important factors in shopping around for this type of residence.

Choices for long-term care

Research shows that many people are unaware of long-term care options or may be misinformed about what's out there.

Being able to care for oneself independently can be a source of pride. However, illness or age can affect people in ways that require them to seek assistance with medical needs or daily activities for an extended period of time. In such instances, long-term care services can fill a need. Long-term care assists people in their homes, in the community or in various types of facilities with various daily and medical requirements. According to WebMD, research shows that many people are unaware of long-term care options or may be misinformed about what's out there.

Home care

Various services can be utilized in the comfort of home. Services can include home-delivered meals, pest control, minor home modifications, or visiting nurses and health aides. Other benefits may include shopping or physical therapy.

Community care

Community services can include adult day care centers, meal programs, senior centers, community transportation, and others. Community services enable people to continue to live in the community with some support. They also may help family or friends serving as caregivers enjoy a break from the assistance they have been providing.

Care facilities

Long-term care may be



mistaken as strictly nursing homes, but facilities extend to places that provide other services. Here's a look at the care facilities.

- Independent senior living:** Independent living facilities may provide assistance only when needed. Amenities are designed to make things easier and more convenient for residents. Fitness centers, pools, dining venues, and transportation may be included. These facilities tend to provide the most independent form of senior living. Some independent living facilities are part of larger continuing care retirement communities that have staged care that goes from independent to skilled nursing.

- Assisted living:** These homes provide 24-hour supervision, meals, healthcare services, and other forms of assistance in a home-like setting. Types of services include laundry, housekeeping, medication dispersal, and dressing.

community. These facilities offer many services all under one roof, like rehabilitative services, meals, activities, and around-the-clock care. Some skilled nursing homes offer temporary care after an injury or illness and are used in lieu of an extended hospital stay.

It is never too early to begin planning for elder care that may include long-term care possibilities. Individuals are urged to work with an elder care lawyer to help navigate the complexities of planning for medical care and their potential financial needs.

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Nursing home care and the “Look-back Period”

Understanding how health plans work and learning about potential financial reviews for nursing home payment qualification is a good idea for anyone concerned about financing their future health care needs.

Health care plans provide access to medical care and other necessities and reduce out-of-pocket health-related expenses. Each plan is different, and depending on where you live, your coverage may vary.

People quickly find that many healthcare plans do not include provisions for long-term health care, such as paying for nursing facilities. Understanding how health plans work and learning about potential financial reviews for nursing home payment qualification is a good idea for anyone concerned about financing their future health care needs.

Health care basics

In the United States, health care is largely privately managed, with most employers offering access to various health coverage plans. Government subsidized plans include Medicare, which is for retirement-age individuals and



younger people with disabilities. Medicaid is a joint state- and federally-run government program that provides health coverage to low-income individuals and families.

Unless an individual meets low-income criteria, nursing home care is paid for by the resident; otherwise, people who qualify for Medicaid can have their nursing home expenditures paid for by that program. To receive Medicaid assistance, applicants should expect a financial review, including a

look-back period.

What is the look-back period?

The senior health, finance and lifestyle resource Senior Living advises that Medicaid is a “last resort” method of financing nursing home costs. Individuals are expected to use other means of payment first and “spend down” their assets. When financial resources dwindle, Medicaid will kick in to provide coverage.

To ensure that individuals simply do not transfer money out of their accounts to avoid

paying for nursing home care by their own means, Medicaid requires a look-back period into applicants' finances to determine if there were any violations to rules regarding asset transfers.

Most people engage in some sort of long-term planning to protect a portion of their assets so that they can be used to support spouses or children. According to rules, an applicant is permitted to transfer certain monies to his or her spouse, provided the spouse isn't also applying for long-term care through Medicaid. Most money and tangible asset transfers (check with your state Medicaid office for the most current rules) must have taken place 60 months (5 years) prior to application for Medicaid. Penalties will be instituted when rules are broken, namely gifts or asset transfers that take place within the look-back period. This could delay Medicaid acceptance.

Paying for long-term care can be complicated business with look-back periods and required spend-downs. It is in a person's best interest to seek the guidance of a financial planner who specializes in elder care to navigate these financial waters.

Hobbies for seniors residing in assisted living communities

As individuals adjust to life in assisted living facilities, finding new hobbies or rediscovering old passions can be a great way to connect with fellow residents.

Assisted living facilities are a vital resource for aging individuals. Data from the American Health Care Association¹ and the National Center for Assisted Living² indicates that more than 811,000 people reside in assisted living facilities across the United States. Assisted living facilities have changed dramatically over the years, making them ideal options for adults who may need varying degrees of help with daily activities. Such facilities can help with activities like bathing and preparing meals, but they also can help residents find and explore new or existing hobbies.

As individuals adjust to life in assisted living facilities, finding new hobbies or rediscovering old passions can be a great way to connect with fellow residents.

Reading: Reading is a rewarding activity that can greatly benefit seniors and provide an engaging pastime for those with limited mobility. Many assisted living facilities offer activities that are designed to foster communication between residents and a book club can do just that. What's more, reading every day may be especially valuable for people age 65 and older. A 2018 study published in the journal JAMA Psychiatry found that dementia risk was considerably lower among men and women 65

and older who participated in intellectual activities like reading than it was among seniors who did not engage in such pursuits.

Gardening: AARP notes that gardening provides a host of health benefits that go beyond ensuring fresh fruits and vegetables will be on the dinner table. For example, vitamin D is vital to bone health, which is important for aging men and women who are vulnerable to osteoporosis. A 2014 study from researchers in Italy found that exposure to sunlight can help older adults get adequate amounts of vitamin D. Signing up for a gardening club can be a great way for seniors to get some exercise, enjoy time outside the assisted living facility and promote strong bones.

Art therapy: According to the Chicago Methodist Senior Services, art therapy is a creative form of therapy designed to help older adults with memory loss or those experiencing mental or physical stress. The Harvard Medical School notes that recent research has indicated that engaging in creative activities may be more effective at delaying cognitive decline than merely appreciating creative works. A 2014 study from researchers in Germany found that retirees who painted and sculpted had greater improvements in spatial reasoning and emotional



resilience than a similar group who attended art appreciation classes. Many assisted living facilities offer art therapy or similar programs to residents, and enrolling in such programs can promote social interaction

and provide numerous benefits to men and women over 65. Assisted living facilities offer an array of programs designed to help residents develop rewarding hobbies that can benefit their long-term health.

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Memory care a component of assisted living

Aging brings about many changes, including some that may compromise seniors' ability to remain independent. In such instances, many families consider assisted living facilities for their aging relatives.

Aging brings about many changes, including some that may compromise seniors' ability to remain independent. In such instances, many families consider assisted living facilities for their aging relatives. More than 835,000 Americans currently reside in assisted living communities, according to the National Center for Assisted Living..

While communities and homes provide various services, one service in particular may be needed for seniors with Alzheimer's disease, other dementias or memory problems. Memory care units are separate facilities that cater to people with dementia or other memory issues. According to the senior residence referral and resource guide A Place for Mom, memory care is a distinct form of long-term skilled nursing. Also called special care units, memory care facilities provide 24-hour supervised care for individuals.

This care is often carried out in a separate wing or floor of a residential facility or community. Memory care facilities aim



Aging brings about many changes, including some that may compromise seniors' ability to remain independent. In such instances, many families consider assisted living facilities for their aging relatives.

to provide a safe and secure environment for residents. This means limiting entry or egress to other areas of the facility for those who may have trouble navigating and remembering where they started out. The Alzheimer's Association notes that six in 10 people with

dementia will wander and become disoriented. This is dangerous for the individual and others. Memory care units often have alarms and "wander guard" precautions in place to make sure residents cannot roam unsupervised and risk injury. Another goal of memory

care is to provide a stress-free, structured lifestyle that has set schedules and routines, states Brookdale Senior Living. This can help keep distress minimal and make for more comfortable and happy residents. In addition, memory care units offer programs that help slow the progression of dementias and cultivate cognitive skills.

Fitness exercises, games, specialty food programs, activities, and much more may be offered to make residents more comfortable. Memory care facilities include common spaces for socialization, meals and activities. "Alzheimer's patients must maintain their activity, walking, interacting with music, and art," says Lory Bright-Long, MD, CMD, of the American Medical Directors Association. "We have to awaken the senses so that the memory can have a hook. This is accomplished in the memory care setting." It is important for those considering assisted living and nursing home facilities to inquire about specific memory care units if a loved one requires this environment. Start the search at APlaceForMom.com.

The benefits of skilled nursing facilities

Families have a variety of options when looking for living facilities for aging men and women, and there are a host of benefits to skilled nursing facilities.

Many aging adults reach a point in their lives when they can no longer care for themselves without some help. Some may just need a little help around the house, while others with more extensive needs may choose to relocate to skilled nursing facilities.

Some aging adults may be able to choose living facilities on their own, and many may even dictate their choices as part of their estate planning. In other instances, such as when seniors suddenly become ill and are incapable of caring for themselves, the decision may need to be made by relatives.

Families have a variety of options when looking for living facilities for aging men and women, and there are a host of benefits to skilled nursing facilities.

Professional care: Many facilities offer skilled nursing care. Skilled nursing care is administered by licensed nurses and therapists. Skilled nursing facilities, or SNFs, are designed to tend to the needs of residents who require a level of medical care that goes beyond what assisted living facilities can provide.

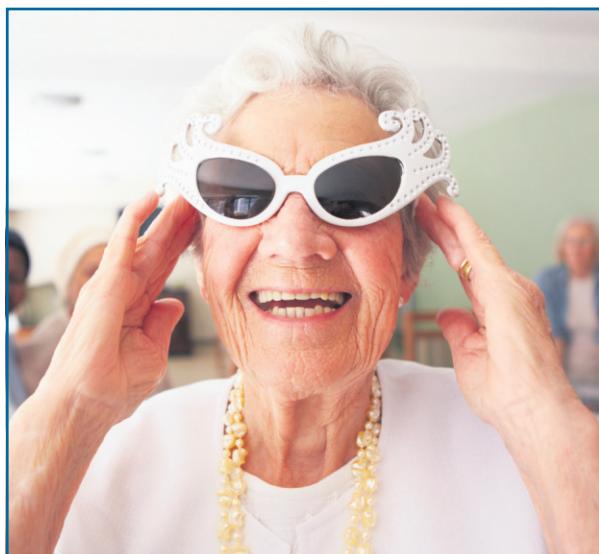
Peace of mind: Medical attention at SNFs is available around the clock. That often provides

residents' relatives substantial peace of mind, as they know licensed professionals will be on hand to address their loved ones' needs at all hours of the day and night.

Criteria: The Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) will only certify facilities that meet strict criteria. When shopping for an SNF, individuals and families should inquire about certification. CMS-certified facilities are subject to periodic inspections to make sure residents are receiving the highest quality care. That's another factor that should give families some peace of

mind. **Proximity:** According to Commonwealth Medicine, there are more than 15,000 SNFs in the United States. These facilities care for nearly 1.5 million people. With so many facilities across the country, families can surely find one for a family member in need that's close to home. Routine visits from friends and family can help seniors make a smooth transition to an SNF and reassure relatives that they won't have to travel far and wide each time they want to see their loved ones. Skilled nursing facilities can help aging adults navigate daily life when they can no longer take care of themselves.

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Explore long-term care insurance

Long-term care insurance can help protect retirement dollars by paying for skilled nursing homes or home health aides.



Individuals plan for many different scenarios: buying a home, putting kids through college and saving for retirement, among them. Quite often the concept of making arrangements for one's golden years is placed on the back burner. However, that can be an expensive mistake.

According to AARP, by the time a person reaches age 65, he or she has a 50-50 chance of needing long-term care at some point in the future. Medicare, the federal health insurance program for people who are 65 or older in the United States, does not cover custodial care, which is the primary form of care in nursing homes. Therefore, many people must find alternative ways to finance

nursing home and other long-term care options. Those who must pay out-of-pocket spend an average of \$85,000 per year on a nursing home in the U.S., and this is often an expense that has not been included in retirement budgets. Long-term care insurance can be the best option to offset the high costs of nursing home and other care in most instances. It helps cover the costs of services that aren't covered by regular health insurance, namely assistance with routine daily activities like bathing, dressing or getting in and out of bed, advises the financial resource NerdWallet.

Such care may be administered at home by a private health aide or in a skilled nursing facility. Most policies also will

reimburse for services rendered in an assisted living facility or an adult day care center. According to a study revised in 2016 by the Urban Institute and the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services, about 14 percent of people age 65 and older will require care for more than five years. Getting the facts about long-term care insurance can help individuals make important decisions for their futures.

- **The earlier a person buys a long-term care insurance policy the lower the rates tend to be.**

The American Association of Long-Term Care Insurance says a 65-year-old couple can typically buy a policy for \$4,800 per year to offer base benefits of \$180,000 plus 3 percent

inflation growth. That plan price more than doubles if purchased at age 75.

- **Cost also is based on the maximum amount the policy will pay per day and the number of years the policy will pay.** Many policies limit how long or how much they will pay, some between two and five years, states the Administration on Aging.

- **Policies require some medical underwriting, so not everyone will qualify.**

AARP suggests seeking out an independent agent who sells policies from multiple companies rather than a single insurer. Long-term care insurance can be an effective way to pay for the often high cost of skilled nursing care.

Things to know before drafting a living will

A living will is an important component of medical and estate planning.

During the prime of their lives, people typically don't give much thought to scenarios in which they become ill or are facing the end of life. Sickness and mortality are not easy conversations to have, but it is important for everyone to approach these heavy topics with close family members so that individuals can rest easy knowing their needs will be met if or when their health falters. An advanced healthcare directive - also known as a living will - is a legal document in which a person lists the specifics of medical care and comfort actions they desire should the individual no longer be able to make decisions for themselves due to illness or incapacity. The legal advice resource Legal Zoom says the living will may list certain things, such as whether life support is desired or if pain medication should be administered. A living will should not be confused with a traditional will, which is a legal document that explains wishes

for financial and personal assets after a person dies. Living wills also differ from living trusts, which address how assets will be managed if a person becomes incapacitated.

A living will is not always a necessity if a person does not have strong feelings about decisions made on his or her behalf while not cognizant. However, for those who do want to have a say in care, a living will is the best method for ensuring choices will be carried out. The following are some other questions people should ask themselves concerning living wills.

- **Do I want to remove the burden of tough choices from my loved ones?** A living will relieve grieving loved ones of the responsibility of making challenging decisions of invoking life-saving procedures or not - particularly if they're not sure what you desire.

- **Do I have firm feelings about life-saving methods?** A living will allow you to spell out preferences on insertion of feeding tubes, if you want specialized hydration, if you want to be hooked up to life support if brain function is minimal, and a host of other scenarios.

- **Is cost preventing me from drafting a living will?** Cost need not be a factor in setting up a living will. You can download a free template from any number of online legal sources. Local hospitals often have forms as well, which can be notarized for only a few dollars. These forms are generally comprehensive and can help you answer all the questions and write in specifics.
- **Have you selected a trusted person to carry out wishes?** A



health
care
proxy, according to the American Bar Association, is a person appointed by you with the authority to make decisions for you if you are unable to express your preferences for medical treatment. Together with the living will, the health care proxy, also called a durable medical power of attorney, can fulfill your wishes accordingly.

Did you know?

Skilled nursing facilities and nursing homes are often mistaken as the same thing, but that's not necessarily accurate. According to AARP Medicare Plans, the difference between a skilled nursing facility and a nursing home comes down to the type of care each provides. Care at skilled nursing facilities is provided by trained registered nurses in a medical setting under the supervision of a doctor. AARP Medicare Plans describes this level of care as on par with the level of care patients would receive in a hospital. Nursing home care is

provided largely by licensed practical nurses and nurse aids under the supervision of a registered nurse. Nursing home care tends to focus on custodial care, which emphasizes helping residents perform daily tasks like dressing, bathing and eating. Some facilities may offer both skilled nursing care as well as nursing home care. They may separate patients who need such types of care by designating certain floors or sections of the facility for patients with different needs.



How a Medicare Advantage plan can help you stay healthy and save

Choosing a Medicare plan is an important decision. But to get enough coverage for the road ahead, you may need a Medicare Advantage plan.

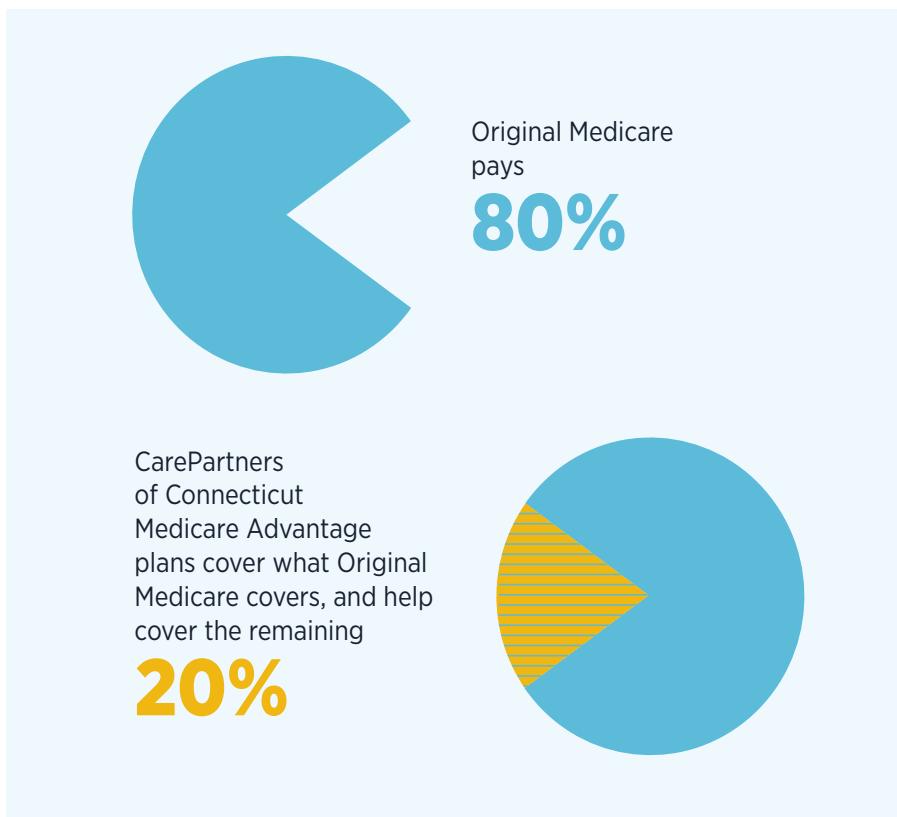
Don't rely on coverage that falls short.

Original Medicare only covers about 80% of total costs. The remaining 20% is your responsibility and could add up to thousands of dollars each year. Plus, Original Medicare does not include prescription drug coverage. To have enough coverage, many people

choose a Medicare Advantage plan because you can get a plan that includes all the benefits of Original Medicare plus coverage for additional benefits, such as routine vision and hearing exams, dental coverage, an eyewear allowance, and prescription drug coverage — all in one plan.

Plus, Original Medicare:

- Doesn't include Part D prescription drug coverage
- Doesn't have a limit on annual medical expenses
- Doesn't include routine vision and hearing exams, and other services



Decide on a plan type — HMO or PPO?

Once you identify a high-quality Medicare Advantage plan, you'll want to determine which type of plan is right for you. There are two common types of Medicare Advantage plans, HMO and PPO. Both have similarities and differences:

HMO and PPO similarities:

- Offer everything Medicare covers, plus additional benefits
- Available with prescription drug coverage
- Can help you save with monthly premiums as low as \$0

HMO and PPO differences:

- **HMO** — You choose a primary care provider (PCP) to be your main doctor who keeps track of your care and refers you to specialists if needed
- **PPO** — You can access any doctor or hospital, but you don't have a PCP, and you are responsible for coordinating your care

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You can reach CarePartners of Connecticut at **1-844-412-5658**.



Or you can sign up for a virtual meeting at carepartnersct.com/connect.

Other resources for information include **Medicare.gov** and local, licensed Insurance Brokers/Agents.

Explaining Wills and Trusts

Understanding the distinctions between wills and trusts can help people as they begin estate planning.



It's never too early for adults to think about estate planning. Estate planning is an important part of money management. While it's easy to think of estate planning as just a way to dictate how your assets are allocated after your death, estate planning also can protect people and their money should accidents or injury make them incapable of managing their finances on their own. Some familiar terms may come up when people begin planning how they hope to transfer their assets. Two more common terms are wills and trusts. Understanding the distinctions between the two can help people as they begin estate planning.

What is a will?

The online financial resource Investopedia notes that wills are legally enforceable documents that dictate how people want their affairs handled and assets allocated in the wake of their deaths. Wills should include a host of information, including who a person wants to assume guardianship of their minor-aged children should they pass away. This is especially important information to include in a will, as surviving relatives may have to go to court to contest guardianship if parents do not dictate who they want to serve as guardians in their wills.

What is a trust?

A trust is a relationship in which another party is given authority to handle a person's assets for the benefit of that person's beneficiaries. When making a trust, a person will need to designate someone as a trustee, who will be tasked with distributing assets in accordance to the terms dictated in the trust. There are many types of trusts, and working with an attorney who specializes in estate planning can help men and women determine which type of trust, if any, is best for them.

Is it better to have a will or a trust?

Both wills and trusts can be useful when estate planning. In fact, wills are often used to establish trusts, and many people have both a will and a trust. Estate planning is an important part of managing one's finances. A qualified attorney who specializes in estate planning can help people write their wills and, if necessary, establish trusts that can help surviving loved ones in the wake of their death.



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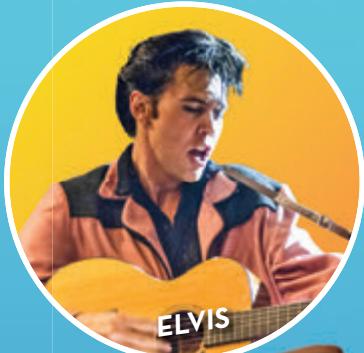
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WALTER SCOTT'S

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Bosch Is Back



There's life after the LAPD for former detective Harry Bosch (*Titus Welliver*). He's now a private eye investigating cases for top-notch attorney and former foe Honey Chandler (Mimi Rogers) in the new *Bosch: Legacy* (May 6 on IMDb TV). Welliver, 60, says he has "enormous affection" for the character—which originated in novels by Michael Connelly—that he debuted on TV in 2014. "Bosch continues to evolve in his own way and keeps me engaged on every level," he says. "I don't think of *Legacy* as a spinoff, but rather as the continuing story of rich and interesting characters."

Something to Crow About

Sheryl Crow talks about her groundbreaking musical career, sexism, depression, perfectionism, cancer and the price of fame in *Sheryl* (May 6 on Showtime). The documentary also features interviews with fellow artists Keith Richards, Laura Dern, Joe Walsh,

Emmylou Harris and Brandi Carlile, as well as rare archival footage spanning 20 years of performing. "I feel like the story is authentic, unique and honest," says Crow, 60. "It's painful at times. It's uplifting.

And, hopefully, some young person is going to watch this and go, 'Wait . . . it's possible.'"



WALTER SCOTT ASKS...

MIKE MYERS

The former *Saturday Night Live* and *Austin Powers* star returns to TV in ***The Pentaverate*** (May 5 on Netflix). Myers, 58, who also created and produces the satirical series, plays seven characters in its story about a secret society working to influence world events for the greater good since the Black Plague of the 1300s. His co-stars include Keegan-Michael Key, Ken Jeong and Jennifer Saunders.

Was *The Pentaverate* an idea influenced by the COVID pandemic? I've always been fascinated with the Black Plague and how it changed society, and then here we are with the pandemic of our own. But it's pure coincidence. The fun part of making stuff is when things become strangely au courant when they were always there.

What's your process to play multiple characters?

Louie Zakarian, the makeup genius at *Saturday Night Live*, and I designed the makeup. I've worked with him for many, many years and we

What's his favorite moment from *Wayne's World*? Go to Parade.com/myers to find out.

OH, SO CLOSE!

Coming off her latest roles in the movies *Swan Song*, *Four Good Days* and *Hillbilly Elegy*, **Glenn Close**, 75, joins the new season of ***Tehran*** (May 6 on Apple TV+), the international thriller about a Mossad agent (**Niv Sultan**) and her secret mission. Close plays Marjan, a British woman living in the Iranian capital. Here are some fun facts about the actress, who began her film career in 1982 with *The World According to Garp*.



developed it together. The outside tells the inside; the inside tells the outside. That might be my favorite process in all of this, making the characters.

You brought back Dr. Evil for a Super Bowl LVI commercial.

Now there's a rumor that *Austin Powers 4* might happen. I can

neither confirm nor deny the existence or nonexistence of such a program, but I would love to see it. I enjoy doing it. I had such a blast making that commercial, and I love working with those people.

What keeps you coming back to

***Shrek*, whom you've voiced in four films?** I love the emotional center of that character. This is going to sound a little serious, but the director Sidney Lumet used to say that people who we've dismissed as freaks are more like ourselves than we often care to admit. I love that the traditional villain in the world of fairy tales was the hero.



► Close is the late **Princess Diana**'s eighth cousin.

Framed in her kitchen is the prop knife her character, Alex, used to attack Dan (Michael Douglas) in *Fatal Attraction*.

► A big New York Mets fan, she sang the national anthem for a 2006 game that coincided with the 20th anniversary of the team's 1986 World Series victory.

As of 2022, she has the most Best Actress Oscar nominations—eight—without a win. However, she has won three Tonys, three Golden Globe Awards and a trio of Emmys.

► Close's daughter, **Annie Starke**, played the younger version of Close's character in the movie *The Wife*.

In 2010, she helped launch Bring Change to Mind, a nonprofit working to destigmatize mental illness and open frank dialogues about mental health.

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SOLE STYLE



Street-sneaker subculture comes to life in *Sneakerella* (May 13 on Disney+), a fun fairy-tale remake about a shoe store stock boy who, with the help of his best friend, a little magic and a "Princess Charming," pursues his dreams of becoming a sneaker designer. Inspired by the movie's dazzling footwear? Put a spring in your step with these colorful kicks. —Megan O'Neill Melle

1. The Low 1 Jolla's animal-print detailing and orange trim can amplify an otherwise bland outfit. [\\$265](http://olivercabell.com)

2. New Balance mixes sporty '90s profiles with modern color-blocking with its 997H Sneaker. \$90, dsw.com

3. Show both sides of your personality with Allbirds' double-sided tartan Women's Wool Piper Mids. \$120, allbirds.com

4. For a fresh, youthful look, opt for the spring-ready hues of Nike's Air Max Excee. \$90, shoecarnival.com

5. With a memory foam insole and a whimsical pattern, the Beach Bingo Feline Love slip-on combines comfort and style. For every purchase a donation is made to animals in need. \$50, skechers.com



Ask Marilyn

By Marilyn vos Savant

I like to find some good in everything, but I can't find any good that can come from the pandemic. Can you?

—Kayla Louis, Ames, Iowa

We can create something good! One positive outcome would be this ongoing change in attitude:

If you're sick with a contagious respiratory illness such as a cold, flu or viral pneumonia (not to mention COVID-19, which requires quarantine), don't go to school or work, if at all possible. Stay at home. If you must go out when you're sick, wear a mask: It's the right thing to do. If everyone lived this way, far fewer of us would get sick in the first place, let alone become so ill that we wind up in a hospital or even die as a result. Pass it on, readers!

Books We Love

Historian Mark K. Updegrove tackles John F. Kennedy's transformative but abbreviated tenure in the White House in *Incomparable Grace: JFK in the Presidency* (Dutton). \$29

In Emily Henry's perfect-for-summer rom-com *Book Lovers* (Berkley, May 3), a fierce literary agent and her brooding NYC editor-enemy find sizzling chemistry in small-town North Carolina. \$27

Looking for supernatural suspense, forbidden love and a history lesson set in the aftermath of the Mexican War of Independence? Pick up *The Hacienda* (Berkley, May 3) by Isabel Cañas. \$27

Carley Fortune brings summertime nostalgia and lakeshore towns to life in *Every Summer After*



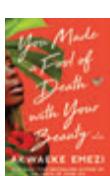
(Berkley, May 10), about haunting past choices and second-chance romance. \$16

A woman wakes up in Portugal with a missing husband, and an international suspense tale ensues in *Two Nights in Lisbon* (MCD, May 24) by Chris Pavone. \$28

A young Nigerian American widow learns to balance the loss of an old love and the possibility of a new one in *You Made a Fool of Death With Your Beauty* (Atria, May 24) by Akwaeke Emezi. \$27

Debut novelist Nora Murphy's *The Favor* (Minotaur, May 31) is a dark, unnerving domestic thriller about the consequences of fighting back when relationships go wrong. \$28

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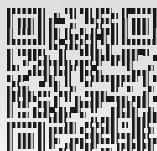
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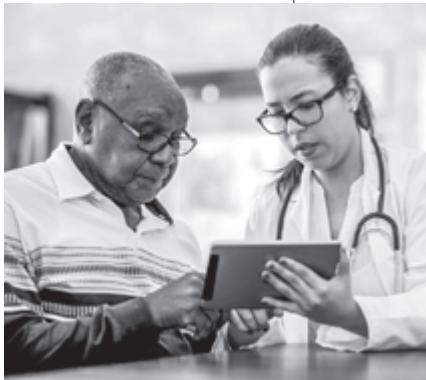
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Stay Healthy

MEN'S HEALTH SURPRISES



A look at ailments—from prostate cancer to depression—that can sneak up on men

By Peter Moore

Many men are good at ignoring major health threats—especially if there's an important game on. The journal *Annals of Emergency Medicine* published a study showing that during key playoff contests for the Red Sox, admittances for men at Boston-area hospitals dropped by 15 percent. And yet, the sooner a man confronts a health issue—early in the game, say, rather than during sudden-death overtime—the more likely he is to walk away with a win. Here are three stealth health issues to watch out for.

PROSTATE CANCER Jeffrey Presley, 60, is not your average guy. He's much more vigilant than that. The Richmond Heights, Ohio, resident had been monitoring his prostate for years, through regular checkups with a urologist and measurements of his prostate-specific antigen (PSA), which can flag cancer risk. The gland, located just below the bladder, manufactures the fluid that carries sperm on its reproductive missions. As a man ages, his prostate can enlarge and cause a host of unpleasant symptoms, including a weakened urinary stream and increased urgency to pee at night.

Because he's Black, Presley knew he was at higher risk for prostate problems. "I saw the warning signs of prostate problems and I acted quickly," says the retired financial manager for the federal government. "This form of cancer is a silent killer."

It's also the most common cancer in men, says Cleveland Clinic associate professor of urology Robert Abouassaly, M.D. "Men are at risk if they have a brother or father who had prostate cancer. African Americans have higher risk at every age."

"I got my diagnosis on February 4, 2021. It was a shock, but



also not a shock," Presley remembers. "I wanted to get it out of my body so I could move on." After robotic surgery and radiation treatment, he's now cancer-free.

In addition to regular checkups as you age, Abouassaly offers this prescription for a healthy gland: "Everything that's good for your heart is also good for your prostate." He recommends a diet light on red meat and dairy and heavy on fruits and vegetables, including cooked tomatoes, which are rich in lycopene, a potent prostate protector.

DEPRESSION The pandemic, approaching retirement—these and other stresses of work and family life are some of the concerns that Adam Borland, a psychologist for Cleveland Clinic, helps men cope with. "I see a lot of men who didn't receive treatment for mental challenges in their 20s and 30s," he says. "They've bottled things up. Then at retirement they go through a lot of life changes—to their careers, to their relationships—and they realize they need help."

Among the depression signs and symptoms that men (and their loved ones) should look out for: when they fly into rages or become easily irritated; when they engage in risky behavior involving driving, gambling, drugs, alcohol or sex; when they lose friends and cut off family members; or when they lack motivation on the job or with favorite hobbies. Depression also can trigger physical symptoms, including headaches, nausea, chest pain or sexual difficulties.

Borland cites one guy who went through just that: **Kevin Love**, 33, a power forward for the Cleveland Cavaliers basketball team, who publicly admitted his own struggles with panic, anxiety and depression. "A guy like Love gives men permission to recognize their own struggles," says Borland, who has noted an uptick in the number of his male patients during the pandemic.



SKIN CANCER Jim Sanfilippo, 43, is a baller. He played shirts vs. skins hoops on outdoor courts as a young man and went on to become a youth-basketball coach. But that history of outdoor play might have had deadly consequences for the CFO of an energy group in Avon, Ohio. A cancerous mole grew on his lower back.

"It's the most common place for men to have a melanoma," says Cleveland Clinic dermatologist Joshua Arbesman, M.D. "Men aren't able to see that part of their body well." Sanfilippo knew he was at risk because of his sun exposure, relatives who had died from melanoma and because his skin was dotted with a minefield of moles. So he had regular skin scans and encouraged his wife to check his back. But he missed one appointment, and it almost cost him: Last year, a doctor spotted an irregularly shaped mole that was cancerous and Sanfilippo quickly had surgery to remove it.



"Delay kills, and I'm lucky to be here today because they found mine in time," says Sanfilippo. "I put my family first, and this cancer could have derailed all of that. You can't afford to wait."

Visit Parade.com/mind for tips on how to incorporate mindfulness into your daily routine.



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SUMMER WATCH LIST!

BY MARA REINSTEIN

Our guide to a terrific summer of movies, from dinos and do-gooders to chills, thrills and a train full of competing assassins. Plus, Kevin Hart and Dwayne Johnson tell *Parade* what it's like to play a couple of (animated) dogs.



DOWNTON ABBEY: A NEW ERA

The original cast from the 2010–15 PBS series and 2019 film returns for more juicy drama as the Crawley family heads to the French Mediterranean, where the Dowager Countess (Maggie Smith) has inherited a villa from someone in her past. Meanwhile, back at Britain's Downton Abbey, a film crew takes over the house—much to the disgust of Lord Grantham (Hugh Bonneville). *In theaters May 20*

"Do I look as if I'd turn down a villa in the South of France?"

—Maggie Smith as Dowager Countess of Grantham



JURASSIC WORLD DOMINION

Dinosaurs now live and hunt alongside humans all over the world in the final installment of the mega-successful franchise. This delicate balance will determine once and for all whether people can share a planet with the predators. Jeff Goldblum returns with fellow alums Sam Neill and Laura Dern as well as Chris Pratt, Bryce Dallas Howard and . . . the velociraptor! *In theaters June 10*



FIRESTARTER

Stephen King's classic supernatural tale rages on! Young Ryan Kiera Armstrong takes over the role played by Drew Barrymore in the 1980s as the girl with the supernatural gift for turning fire into a weapon of mass destruction. Her parents (Zac Efron and Sydney Lemmon) try to stop federal agents from taking advantage. *In theaters May 13*



"We're racing toward the extinction of our species."

—Jeff Goldblum as Dr. Ian Malcolm

HUSTLE

This one sounds like a slam-dunk for Adam Sandler fans. He stars as a down-on-his-luck basketball scout who discovers a phenom (played by real-life pro baller Juancho Hernangómez) with a rocky past in Spain. With each other's help, the two try to prove they both have what it takes to make it in the NBA. On Netflix June 8

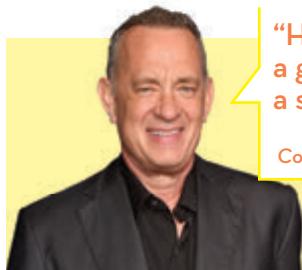
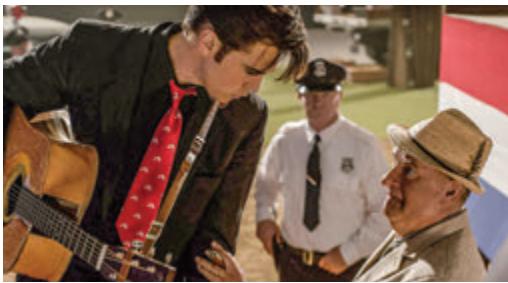


continued on page 9

from page 8

ELVIS

This biopic puts a stylish spin on the life and music of **Elvis Presley** (**Austin Butler**). But it's told through the prism of his complex relationship with his controversial and controlling manager, "Colonel" **Tom Parker** (a Dutch-accented **Tom Hanks**). Butler does his own vocals for the early-era tracks; director Baz Luhrmann (*Moulin Rouge!*) mixed Butler's and Presley's voices for the later songs. *In theaters June 24*



"He was both a genius and a scoundrel."

—Tom Hanks on Colonel Tom Parker



GOOD LUCK TO YOU, LEO GRANDE



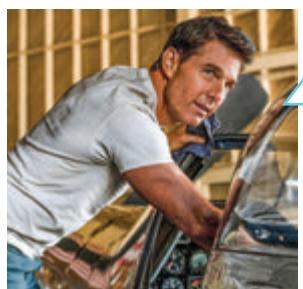
The incredible **Emma**

Thompson bares all in more ways than one in a delightful comedy that earned raves at the recent Sundance Film Festival. As a mild-mannered 55-year-old widow, she decides to hire a professional sex worker who goes by the name Leo Grande (**Daryl McCormack**) to spice up her stagnant love life. *On Hulu June 17*



TOP GUN: MAVERICK

Despite a two-year pandemic-induced delay, **Tom Cruise** is still eager to take your breath away in the follow-up to his 1986 classic. He reprises his role as hotshot Navy pilot Pete "Maverick" Mitchell, now a captain teaching a new generation of aviators how to wing it. Co-stars include *TG* newcomer Miles Teller, who plays Bradley "Rooster" Bradshaw, a pilot trainee and the son of Maverick's late friend "Goose." Val Kilmer, as "Iceman," also returns. *In theaters May 27*



"The cast is brilliant, but they also had to be able to fly in the airplane."

—Tom Cruise



DOGGONE HEROES

Hey, not all superheroes wear capes—or have two legs. In the animated film *DC League of Super-Pets*, Krypto the Super-Dog (**Dwayne Johnson**) must convince his pal Ace the Bat-Hound (**Kevin Hart**) and a ragtag group of animals to help rescue the kidnapped Justice League superheroes. Johnson and Hart tell us more. *In theaters July 29*

How do Ace the Bat-Hound and Krypto the Super-Dog fit into the DC universe?

Hart: Ace is in a shelter, and he doesn't want to be here. He's got better things to do, better places to be. He's a rebel, but you find out that he is a loving dog, with a big heart. He's a protector, a caregiver.

Johnson: Krypto is Superman's dog, his best friend. [Until now] there had not been a reference on the big screen in animation of Krypto ever—so you have the opportunity to create from scratch. It was a lot of fun as an actor.

What's great about playing an animated character? Is it coming to work in your pajamas?

Hart: You really gotta put yourself in the shoes of the character you're playing. It's not just about the voice, it's about the attitude. Ace has an attitude. "You don't know nothing"—he's that guy.

Johnson: I don't come in PJs or casual, comfy, cozy clothes. I come in to do business and I come in hot.

Were you ever in the recording booth together?

Hart: When you're doing animation, you have to trust in the other people in the cast, because you're [mostly] not together. I think Dwayne and I know each other's cadences, each other's tones. I think there's a nice little comedy seesaw that we're able to provide while staying true to the story, because we've worked together so much.

Johnson: We made a point to get together and record a handful of our bigger scenes together. Our chemistry is really dynamic and really jumps off the page. And when we're together in person, it just becomes a different energy in the room and the air shifts.

Go to Parade.com/dwayne to find out what Johnson misses most about working on a movie set.

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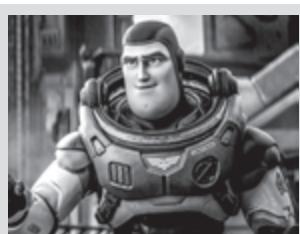
DOCTOR STRANGE IN THE MULTIVERSE OF MADNESS

Picking up in the immediate aftermath of the recent smash *Spider-Man: No Way Home*, the sardonic sorcerer (**Benedict Cumberbatch**) must face the reality of meddling with time and space. His former ally Mordo (**Chiwetel Ejiofor**) holds him responsible for the chaos, and—as seen in the trailer—the doc is handcuffed and led into a menacing chamber. Could this mean more familiar faces from Marvel movies past will also reappear? Signs point to yes. *In theaters May 6*



THOR: LOVE AND THUNDER

It's hammer time! **Chris Hemsworth**'s golden-haired Asgardian prince—i.e., Marvel's God of Thunder—returns for his fourth solo outing in this



LIGHTYEAR

Chris Evans—who says his “love for animated movies runs deep”—takes the galactic baton from Tim Allen in this origin story about the spaceman who inspired the toy that ended up alongside Woody the cowboy in *Toy Story*. So how did **Buzz Lightyear** become a hero? His infinity-and-beyond journey starts when he was blasted into space and onto an alien world, where he's pursued by robots and crazy creatures (and joined by a talking toy cat named Socks). *In theaters June 17*



direct sequel to the kooky-fun *Thor: Ragnarok*. It features most of the *Guardians of the Galaxy* cast (including Chris Pratt) as well as Christian Bale as the villainous Gorr the God Butcher. Plus, Natalie Portman returns as Thor's ex, and this time around she gets some mighty powers herself. *In theaters July 8*

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Throughout the ages, there have been many important advances in mobility. Canes, walkers, rollators, and scooters were created to help people with mobility issues get around and retain their independence. Lately, however, there haven't been any new improvements to these existing products or developments in this field. Until now. Recently, an innovative design engineer who's developed one of the world's most popular products created a completely new breakthrough . . . a personal electric vehicle. It's called the **Zinger**, and there is nothing out there quite like it.

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-Kent C., California

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SUMMER WATCH LIST



THE GRAY MAN

Could this be your new favorite thrill-ride franchise?

Ryan Gosling is a freelance assassin and former CIA operative known as the Gray Man. After he exposes some secrets, a psychopathic former cohort (Chris Evans) is sent to track him down. With a reported \$200 million budget, this adaptation of the book series from Mark Greaney is poised to pack a real punch. *On Netflix July 22*

NOPE

The story for this horror film is under wraps, which is exactly how writer-director Jordan Peele (*Get Out, Us*) likes it. But it does star Oscar winner **Daniel**

Kaluuya (*Judas and the Black Messiah*) and Keke Palmer (*Hustlers*) as caretakers at a California horse ranch who encounter a mysterious, malevolent force. *In theaters July 22*



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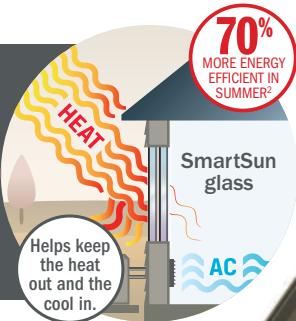
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Nearly four years after Reese Witherspoon selected Delia Owens' debut novel for her book club pick, she's bringing the sensational coming-of-age mystery to the big screen. Didn't read it? A young girl (British actress **Daisy Edgar-Jones**) abandoned by her family must find a way to survive on her own in the marshes of North Carolina. Years later, when her ex's dead body is found in the marsh, she becomes the main suspect. *In theaters July 15*



"I loved this book the moment I read it and am so excited to bring Delia's truly moving page-turner to the screen."
—Producer Reese Witherspoon



MINIONS: THE RISE OF GRU

Here's your chance to learn how those mischievous little yellow creatures learned to work so diligently for their sharp-nosed master. Set in the 1970s (cue the disco music and bell bottoms!), the animated film shows **Gru** (Steve Carell) as a 12-year-old fanboy of a supervillain group called the Vicious 6. Along with his fresh team of Minions, he devises a scheme to become an A-list bad guy. *In theaters July 1*



BULLET TRAIN

Think *Speed* with a dash of Quentin Tarantino: Five assassins board a bullet train in Tokyo with individual assignments. As they venture toward their respective destinations, they realize their targets are all interconnected and they're in a contest with one another. Based on a popular Japanese novel, this one boasts a cast that includes **Brad Pitt**, Sandra Bullock, Joey King, Brian Tyree Henry and Michael Shannon. *In theaters July 29*

Visit [Parade.com/flicks](https://www.parade.com/flicks) for more don't-miss movies to watch this summer.

What America Eats



BONANZA

This strata, from *The Six O'Clock Scramble Meal Planner* by Aviva Goldfarb, is your go-to breakfast for Mother's Day (May 8). "It's a great dish to serve at a brunch," says Goldfarb, "especially because you can make it in advance."



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Spray a 13-by-9-inch glass or ceramic baking dish with cooking spray.

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Arrange rack in center of oven; preheat oven to **350°F**. Remove strata from refrigerator.

Bake, uncovered, **45–50 minutes** or until browned on the edges and cooked through in center. **Serves 8.**

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AMAZING NEW EXPERIENCES

The World's Most Magical Celebration at Walt Disney World® Resort's 50th Anniversary continues in full swing all through 2022 and into early 2023. Come be immersed in shimmering EARidescence and experience special touches, from embellishments on Cinderella Castle to decor throughout the theme parks and beyond. The 50th Anniversary celebration features new experiences at all four theme parks and beyond, including Remy's Ratatouille Adventure attraction at EPCOT® and new nighttime spectaculars courtesy of Disney Enchantment at Magic Kingdom® Park and Harmonious at EPCOT®.

The Theme Park Capital of the World has added another jewel to its crown with the Feb. 24th debut of the world's first Peppa Pig Theme Park! The standalone park built for preschoolers is located next to LEGOLAND® Orlando and features multiple rides, interactive attractions, fun live shows, themed playscapes and water play areas, and dreamy photo ops with Peppa.

In January, the long-awaited aural wonder, Steinmetz Hall opened at the Dr. Phillips Center for the Performing Arts in the heart of downtown Orlando. The facility has earned the rare N1 sound rating – the lowest level at which humans can detect sound – which means you'll be able to hear performances like never before ... literally!

UNBELIEVABLE NEW HOTELS & RESORTS

In December 2021, the Lake Nona Wave Hotel opened in the innovative community of Lake Nona featuring 216 high-tech guest rooms, 16 one-bedroom suites and two penthouse suites. The hotel is a must see for art lovers with over 400 pieces of art and an amazing 50,000-square-foot sculpture garden located near the Orlando International Airport.

For an out-of-this-world experience like no other, the highly anticipated *Star Wars: Galactic Starcruiser* opened in March at Walt Disney World® Resort! After booking your stay, you'll "board" the starship *Halcyon* for an all-inclusive experience that will make you a part of the immersive *Star Wars* galaxy. Choose your path, learn to wield a lightsaber, and travel to Black Spire Outpost on the planet Batuu, where your journey continues at *Star Wars: Galaxy's Edge* at Disney's Hollywood Studios®. It's a once in a lifetime experience you'll never forget!



Ice Breaker at SeaWorld® Orlando



Peppa Pig Theme Park at LEGOLAND® Florida Resort



Lake Nona Wave Hotel

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ON THE COVER

On the beach in Aruba, one of our postcards from the Caribbean Basin beginning on page. 78. Image courtesy Hyatt Regency Aruba.

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Designed with today's active and health-conscious travelers in mind, Trump International Beach Resort Miami has everything you need for a refined, relaxed and fun stay in Sunny Isles Beach. Our Four Star-rated condo hotel features plenty of space to unpack and unwind — from multiple outdoor dining venues to open spaces like the beachfront and pool area for resort events and family activities to all the conveniences of home, including in-suite kitchens and laundry facilities.



PARTNERS IN FUN

The team at Trump International Beach Resort is whole-heartedly dedicated to delivering a fun experience to all guests. For an exciting day, a trip to Dezerland Park is a must. As Florida's largest indoor attraction park, Dezerland Miami is guaranteed fun with go-karts, Virtual Reality, trampoline park and more, all available for day trips or private events. As the exclusive hotel partner for Dezerland Park, we are happy to send our guests just 10 minutes down the road for a fun-filled day.

Our Concierge team is eager to curate VIP experiences for you and your travel party – whether it's a helicopter ride, Everglades experience, fishing charter or a Miami food tour, our team is connected throughout South Florida.

On property, we have a dedicated Fun Coordinator on property whose sole focus is to build resort programing for all ages – from kid's club activities at Planet Kids, to teen fun and games, and on to events for adults of all activity levels.

FAMILY TIMES

The whole family can choose adventure or relaxation in the Florida sun with two pools and plenty of beach space. Need help coordinating a memorable, fun-filled activity? Let us create an unforgettable experience based on your family's individual needs. Resort guests can also enjoy everything from on-site water sports to exclusive discounted pricing at nearby entertainment complex, Dezerland Park.

AZZURRO ITALIAN RESTAURANT & BAR

Beloved by locals and visitors alike, Azzurro Italian Restaurant & Bar is back after a brief hiatus, serving up its fan-favorites and creative new dishes. After being situated just down the street from the resort for nearly 10 years, the restaurant has relocated to its new beachfront address at the Trump International Beach Resort.

Azzurro's traditional dishes draw inspiration from Italy's great cities, from homemade pastas to Mediterranean seafood dishes, and a perfectly cooked selection of meat plates. Popular appetizers include crudo such as Tartare di Tonno and Piatto di Crudo Misto, incorporating fresh, local seafood. A selection of antipasti includes Crostini di Funghi, Vitello Tonnato and Calamari Fritti. Pasta-lovers can choose from Bucatini Cacio & Pepe, prepared table-side, Ravioli di Aragosta and Linguine ai Frutti de Mare. Fish and meat features in a number of dishes such as Filetto di Branzino, Cioppino, Filletto di Manzo alla Griglia and Cotoletta alla Milanese.



TIME TO RELAX

Aquinox Spa & Fitness Center, with décor inspired by both sand and sea, offers body treatments, massages and facials. Spa-goers can get a taste of Miami with treatments incorporating ingredients such as Florida sugar cane, Key lime and grapefruit. Our 1,400-square-foot Fitness Center offers free weights, top-of-the-line cardio equipment and LifeFitness machines.

Love to shop? Located in exclusive Sunny Isles in North Miami, Trump International Beach Resort offers close proximity to world-famous South Beach and beautiful Bal Harbour for exclusive shopping trips. Our oceanfront resort is just minutes to world famous Aventura Mall and the delightful Village at Gulfstream Park.

Dining on property offers a great variety of laid-back fare with Florida twists. The ambiance goes from casual beachside at Gili's open air restaurant, to laid-back elegance in Neomi's Grill, poolside fun at the Pool Bar, and upscale chill in the Lobby Lounge. Foodies should not miss the Japanese fusion, Saka Mori; serving everything from specialty maki and ramen to sushi and sashimi, each dish is artfully prepared, making the dining experience as beautiful as it is delicious.

A WORRY FREE STAY

To ensure maximum safety and a pleasant stay for guests, the resort has increased cleaning schedules, as well as placed hand sanitizing stations and social distancing signage in public spaces. With contactless features like the hotel's Go Hotel Life mobile app, guests can also quickly and easily make everything from dining reservations to housekeeping requests and spa reservations, among others.

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Island out of the Stream

Andros was always the mystery island of the Bahamas, but a telegenic new resort is putting its pristine beaches, blue holes and wildness on the map

By Mark Gurnett

THERE was an unvoiced schoolboy apology for not having a name tag. I had just arrived, smiling. "But I live on the beach," I said to the beach concierge at the Casuarina Marabout on South Andros Island. I looked down to the beach sand. "That's a lot of beach to get lost in," I said. "OK, here," he said. "This is the last wild place."

CARIBBEAN/BAHAMAS

Low tide on remote Mars Bay, South Andros Island

Explore Florida & The Caribbean

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OUR BIGGEST ISSUE YET

WHERE THE SUN DON'T SHINE
FLORIDA CAVERNS STATE PARK

LUNCH WITH AN ORCA?
DINING GOES WILD

CAPTIVA AUDIENCE
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STATEWIDE EVENT CALENDAR

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PEAK EXPERIENCES
KNIFE DEEP IN THE EVERGLADES

ORLANDO'S HIDDEN PARADISE

POSTCARDS FROM THE EDGE IN THE KEYS

ADVENTURE WITH A LITTLE IN ST. LUCIA

THE SEARCH FOR THE SECRET OF THE CUBAN SANDWICH

STATEWIDE EVENT CALENDAR

Explore Florida & The Caribbean

CAR KEYS

For a farewell to a classic convertible, the road less traveled leads to Mile 0 in Key West — and some timeless haunts.

By Jerome Lang

THE new Disney is the happiest place on Earth. Maybe it is — if you're 12. For those inclined to more adult, or at least broader, pursuits, it's Key West. Why? Because Key West is not a place you arrive at by accident. You have to make some effort to get here. Most people here are either running from what they left behind, or they are running to the few glowing neon signs that key has to offer.

Map: Sun-Sentinel.com

Bonneville: Sun-Sentinel.com

Explore Florida & The Caribbean

A word about awards

Explore Florida & the Caribbean has won First Place in the Special Sections Class A category from the Florida Press Club, “honoring the best in Florida journalism.”

About the issue, the judges said: “This beautiful section reads like a love letter to all Florida areas, with entertaining and engaging writing, gorgeous photos and a nod to pandemic precautions as well.” The annual FPC competition, honoring work from publications throughout the state, is in its 71st year. The full list of winners, for work published in 2021, is available here, <https://www.floridapressclub.org/2021winners/>

Explore Florida & the Caribbean also won First Place for General Excellence in the Florida Magazine Association’s 2021 Charlie Awards competition, “recognizing publishing excellence in the state of Florida.” The magazine also won First Place in 2020 FMA competition in the category of Best Visitor Publication.

A Spin around My Home

A worldly travel editor returns to South Florida — and finds worlds to explore

By Thomas Swick • Photography by Thomas Swick

SOUTH Florida. It sounds like a state. It's not. It's a county, one of the smallest, but more than six million people. Were it a state, it would be the 18th most populous.

This is a place where metropolitan sprawl meets a preserved national park. Historic hotels, Florida's most iconic, are a rare one in the shape of a guitar (here for the 100th anniversary of the Rickenbacker). Deco and Mid-Century Modern, Mediterranean Revival and Art Deco. Pianos and guitars. Beaches and bays that were dredged, parking garages like out of a dreams.

Sun-Sentinel.com

Explore Florida & The Caribbean

ESCAPE TO A WORLD OF ART & CULTURE.

A black and white photograph of a man wearing sunglasses and a light-colored suit jacket playing a trumpet. In the foreground, a woman with short blonde hair and a large, ornate necklace is smiling broadly. In the background, there's a sign that reads "INTERNATIONAL ORCHESTRA WILLIAMS".

There's no greater escape to make this time of year than visiting Greater Miami & Miami Beach. With a wide variety of art and culture scattered throughout our diverse neighborhoods, one weekend may not be enough to take in everything this metropolitan paradise has to offer. Treat yourself to vibrant imagery found on the art walls in Wynwood or find yourself in basking in awe at the architectural wonders of Vizcaya. Savor every flavor as you discover Miami's most authentic cuisines on Calle Ocho. Discover all of this and more as you explore every eclectic neighborhood Miami has to offer.

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The value of a small coin

By Mark Gauert

Someday we may look back on the troubles we had traveling in a time of COVID, and smile.

But not today.

"I'm sorry," the counter agent at the airport in Nassau said, "but your COVID test is 36 hours old."

"The CDC said I had to get one 48 hours before flying to the United States," I said. "Isn't it valid for another 12 hours?"

"But we're in the Bahamas," she said. "The rule here is you have to get a COVID test 24 hours before flying."

"But I'm going to Florida," I said.

"But you're flying from the Bahamas," she said. "And that's the rule here."

I'd gotten up before dawn to catch my flight. I'd packed the night before, so everything would be ready in time for the shuttle. I'd tracked down a clinic near the hotel, so I'd have a CDC-valid COVID test 12 hours before I checked in. I was ready to go.

And getting nowhere.

"You'll have to get another test," she said. "You can't get on the plane without one."

"Another test?" I said, looking around the terminal. "Here?"

"No," she said. "You'll have to go back into town."

I did the math. It had taken me 45 minutes to get to the airport. It would take at least 45 minutes to get back. Add the time to walk to the clinic, add the time to wait for the results, add the time to get back to the airport ...

It all added up to me missing my plane.

"I can't miss my plane," I said. "My family's waiting for me."

"I'm sorry," she said.

"But my test is only 12 hours over the 24-hour rule," I tried. "Couldn't you make an exception to the rule, *please*?"

"No," she said. "A rule is a rule."

I turned away from the counter with my bag, my 36-hour-old COVID test and no idea what I was going to do next. I'd need time to figure this out – and I only had an hour and a half to get to the gate.

With no place at the airport to sit down and think, I walked out on the sidewalk facing the pick-up lanes. It was too far to walk, there were no shuttles – so I hailed Maryed the first taxi passing by.

"Where to?" said the driver, Rufus Swann.

"I only have an hour before my flight leaves, and I need a COVID test," I blurted. "Do you know any place nearby?"

"Family Medicine Center," he said. "It's not far away."

We drove slow out of the airport, then he hit the gas on John F. Kennedy Drive.

"This road is named in honor of your president," he said. "He was here 50 years ago, the first U.S. president to visit the Bahamas. We remember him well."

He took the roundabout onto Blake Road and pulled up to the clinic 10 minutes later. There was a line of people – some also with flights to catch – waiting to be tested out front.



MARK GAUERT

"Can I get a rapid test here?" I asked a nurse. "I only have an hour to get to my flight."

"We can do that!" she said.

"Great!" I said, turning to Swann. "Can you wait?"

"Waiting," he smiled, "is all I do in my business."

I wanted to name a road after him.

He waited 45 minutes – off the meter – for me to get my nose swabbed, the lab to process it, and the clinic to deliver a negative test. *I just might make it!*

"Have you visited the Bahamas before?" Swann asked, on the way back.

"Oh yes, I love it here," I said. "Nassau, Freeport, South Andros Island ..."

"South Andros?!" he said. "You know the Bahamas so well, you deserve a souvenir."

He reached into his pocket, and pulled out a square 15-cent Bahamian coin.

"They don't make these anymore," he said. "They're special."

"Like you," I said, offering him a sample of our currency in return.

I walked up to the counter at the Nassau airport and presented everything I needed to get on board – including a COVID test less than 24 hours old – to the agent.

"I knew you could do it," she said. "Your gate's right over there."

Someday we'll look back on the kindnesses we had traveling in a time of COVID. And smile even more.

— mgauert@sun-sentinel.com





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DISNEY *fifty*+

Can a mature, solo traveler find happiness on a kid-centric cruise from the Happiest Place on Earth?

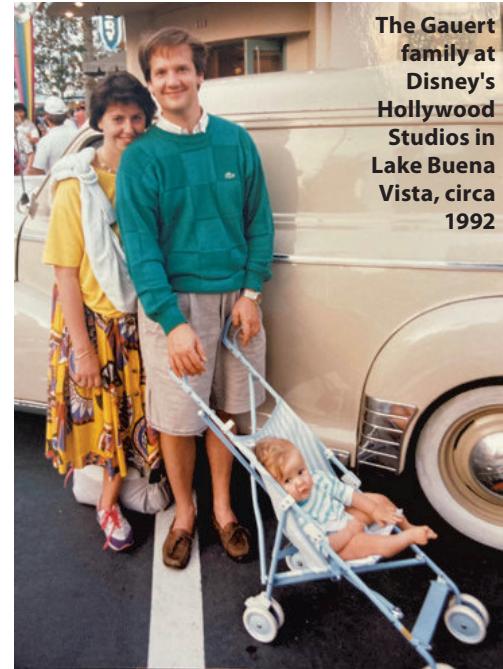
By Mark Gauert

I didn't want to go on a Disney Cruise. Didn't want a sea-going theme park. Didn't want to share a pool or hot tub or sundeck sunning space with a thousand screaming kids in mouse ears. Didn't want to stand in buffet lines for food you normally eat before an amusement park ride. Didn't want to watch *Aladdin* on the TV in my cabin, didn't want to listen to *Jolly Holiday* piped into companionways between decks, didn't want to see *Beauty and the Beast* on a cruise-ship stage with a lot of cranky toddlers. It would be all beast, no beauty, for me on a Disney Cruise. I didn't want it.

But I am the editor of a magazine called *Explore Florida & the Caribbean*. And when I learned the 4,000-passenger *Disney Dream* would be redeploying from Port Canaveral to its new home port of Miami in June, I put my own 50+ dreams on hold to explore a Disney Cruise from *Florida to the Caribbean*.

The things I do for our readers. Reluctantly.

Reluctantly because I couldn't find anybody over or under 50 to go with me, for reasons I'll explain in a moment. It didn't help that I would be an editor significantly over Mouseketeer age traveling alone on a Disney Cruise. It didn't help that I was going to appear, shall we say, *out of place* on a cruise ship manifest made up mostly of families with kids. Didn't help that I wasn't going to have kids or grandkids of my own I could use as cover at the pool or the hot tub or the buffet lines.



Let me pause here to say that I have not always dreaded Disney. No, no. I have mouse ears older than you.

My first movie was Disney's *One Hundred and One Dalmatians*, when I was 3 years old. When I was 5 years old, my mom took me by the hand to Disneyland in California – the only Disney park then! – and signed me up for a Mickey Mouse Club card, entitling me to "special surprises available only to Mickey Mouse Club members!" The surprise at the park that day, in my case, was a silhouette of my 5-year-old head drawn by a real Disney animator, which my mom proudly displayed in our home, and probably still has (somewhere).

The story goes she took me next on the raft over to Tom Sawyer's Island in Frontierland, where I spent the rest of the day outrunning her. She'd get *almost* close enough on the footpaths to grab my hand, then just miss as I jumped onto the barrel bridge or took a sharp turn into the mystery mine or escaped down the secret passage under the stockade at the fort for more fun.

I outran mom that day to Mr. Toad's Wild Ride, then to the Mad Tea Party, then to Dumbo, then to It's a Small World, then back to Tom Sawyer's Island, then ...

I was a handful then. (I've grown out of it. Mostly). But clearly, I was an early, enthusiastic, *aerobic* fan of Disney.

Years later, my wife and I went to Walt Disney World in Florida and loved riding the same rides I'd ridden as a 5-year-old. When we had kids of our own, we diapered them in disposables printed with Mickeys and Minnies, and took them to the parks, too. Our oldest son's first movie was *Aladdin*; our youngest son's was *The Lion King*. Both boys were waiting with their mother for me at the finish line of the Walt Disney World Marathon a few years later. I celebrated with them (and a margarita) under the volcano at Disney EPCOT's Mexico. Aside from our wedding and the birth of our children, I said, *it was the happiest day of my life*.

It was so easy for us to get to the parks from our home in South Florida, and it seemed we were going all the time. We felt sorry for people anywhere other than Florida who might only get to go to Disney once in a lifetime. We were there practically every month!

But sometime on the sixth or 16th or 60th visit to the Magic Kingdom – time flies when you're having fun in a flying Dumbo – we started to get tired of Disney. *It happens.* (There, I've said it.)

So tired, we vowed we wouldn't return to Disney until a grandchild asked us to take them.

We're still waiting. (No pressure, kids).



Don't just wish you were here...



FloridasHollywood.org



THE DISTRICT



Entrance to the adults-only area on Deck 4



So I dreaded boarding the *Disney Dream*, even though I knew it would be newsworthy for this magazine. Dreaded it partly because I was still feeling burned out on Disney, and partly because of that deep-sworn vow we'd made.

"How many people are in your family today?" the attendant said brightly as I waited to board the ship at Port Canaveral.

"Just me," I said.

"Just ... you?" he said.

I know, I know. *Out of place.*

"Just me," I said.

I wondered how other mature, solo travelers – without kids or grandkids for cover – could ever find happiness on a kid-centric cruise ship from the Happiest Place on Earth. Confined to a small space, floating on an ocean hundreds of miles from shore, surrounded by thousands of screaming kids in mouse ears.

"Well," he smiled, "Welcome aboard! Ready for fun?"

I was not. But everybody else was.

The kids were having fun *everywhere* aboard *Disney Dream*. Splashing in Mickey's Pool, Donald's Pool and Nemo's water-play area. Fueling up on endless hotdogs, hamburgers, pizzas and Eye Scream ice cream. Racing away from their mothers to play mini golf

Smoking area on Deck 13



Currents bar at the top of the stairs on Deck 13



on Goofy's Sports Deck or lining up for the umpteenth time to ride the AquaDuck water slide. Watching an endless stream of Disney movies on a drive-in movie-sized screen with booming speakers overlooking the pool area. Singing along with *Let It Go*. Dressing up like pirates and princesses. Piloting a full-scale replica of the *Millennium Falcon* in Disney's Oceaneer's Club. Doing whatever things they were giggling about doing at something called the Bibbidi Bobbidi Boutique. Hitting the endless soda fountain faucets over and over until their Disney cups overflowed ...

It's a small-centric world on *Disney Dream*, after all. Fun for them, not so much for me.

Then, just as a trio of life-sized Green Army Men from *Toy Story* – surrounded by a platoon of endless-pizza-Eye-Scream-ice-cream-soft-drink fueled children – began to surround me, I spotted a sign ahead on a sweeping stairway to the next deck.

"Deck 13," it read. "Reserved for Guests 18 and Older."

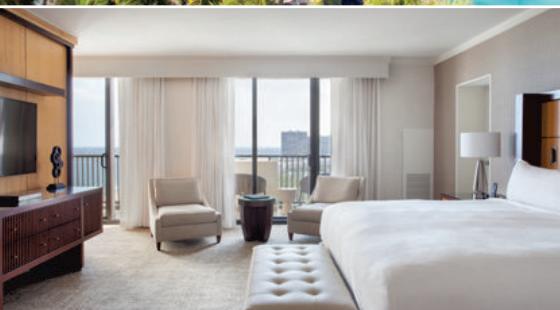
"SANCTUARY!"

Well, no – that's what Quasimodo says in *Disney's Hunchback of Notre Dame*. But I *felt* like saying it.

There was a cocktail bar at the top of the stairs, surrounded by adults doing all kinds of adult things. To the left, adults on a breezy



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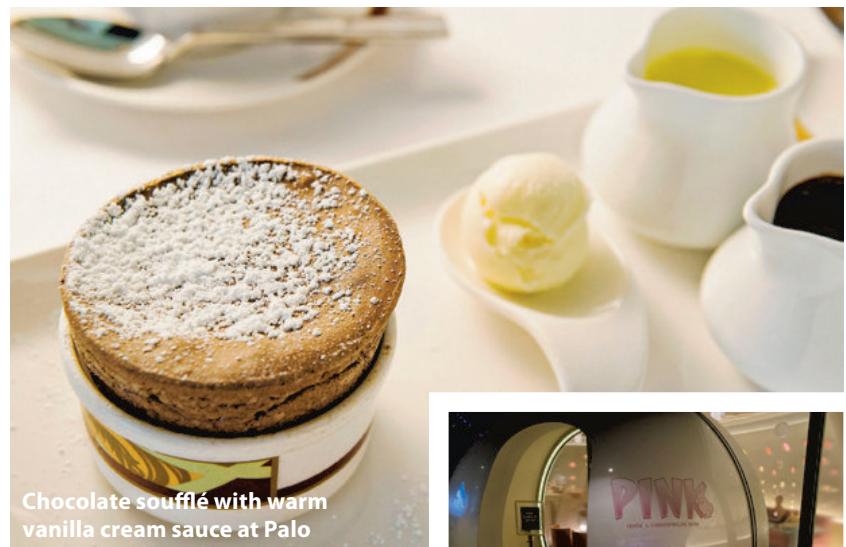
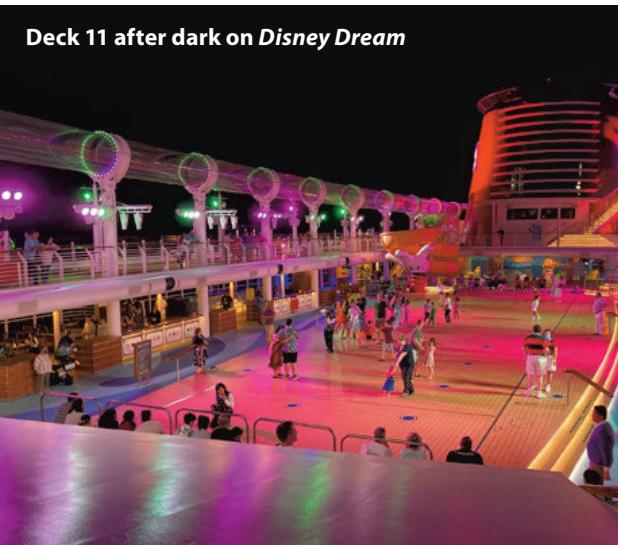
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Deck 11 after dark on Disney Dream**Chocolate soufflé with warm vanilla cream sauce at Palo****Dining with Crush and other characters from *Finding Nemo* at Animator's Palate on Deck 3****Palo dining room on Deck 12****Wine and champagne bar on Deck 4**

outdoor terrace flicked ashes from cigarettes into blue ashtrays that were decidedly not shaped like mouse ears. To the right, adults sipped Caipirinhas, Pina “Colavas” and Moët & Chandon Ice from the bar menu and stared off into the sunset.

I don't necessarily condone smoking *or* drinking. (Or going out in the sun without a good sunscreen). But they all looked happy. Relaxed. Or relieved the kids' clubs were open on Deck 5.

“What *is* this place?” I asked a smoker nursing a Blue Moon in the afterglow.

“Deck 13!” he smiled. “Adults only, man, from here to the front of the boat.”

“What ...?” I said.

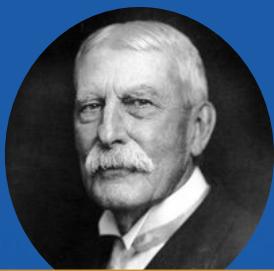
Doubting this (*this was a Disney Cruise!*), I pushed on into the Satellite Falls Sun Deck overlooking the bow. The lounge chairs were all occupied by adults, arranged perfectly to face the pink and golden sunset. The massive hot tub, also occupied by adults, plopped and burbled invitingly. *Let It Go* had let go of the sound system, replaced by *El Ritmo de Amor*, by Kevin Laliberte, in the stillness of the twilight.

“Cocktail?” a waiter asked, “something to drink while you watch the sunset?”

Pinocchio may have had Pleasure Island, I thought, sipping a Mango Mojito. *Disney Dream* has Deck 13.

And more.

The adults were having fun *everywhere* aboard *Disney Dream*, too. Lulling around the Quiet Cove pool, with hot tub and swim-up bar. Detoxifying and deep cleansing with a heated seaweed massage at Senses Spa & Salon. Walking or jogging on a breezy, covered outdoor trail (2.5 laps = 1 mile). Dancing it up – while the kids were under close, compassionate supervision in the Oceaneer’s Club – at Evolution nightclub. Listening to live music at the District Lounge, watching basketball games on big-screen TVs in Pub 687, sipping wine and champagne at Pink on Deck 4. Eating until they could eat no more at two exceptional, “adult-exclusive” fine-dining restaurants, Palo and Remy, on Deck 12. (If they ask if you want the chocolate soufflé at Palo, say yes. You’re welcome.) Recovering from it all the next morning with espressos, cappuccinos, Americanos at the adults-only Cove Café back on Deck 11.

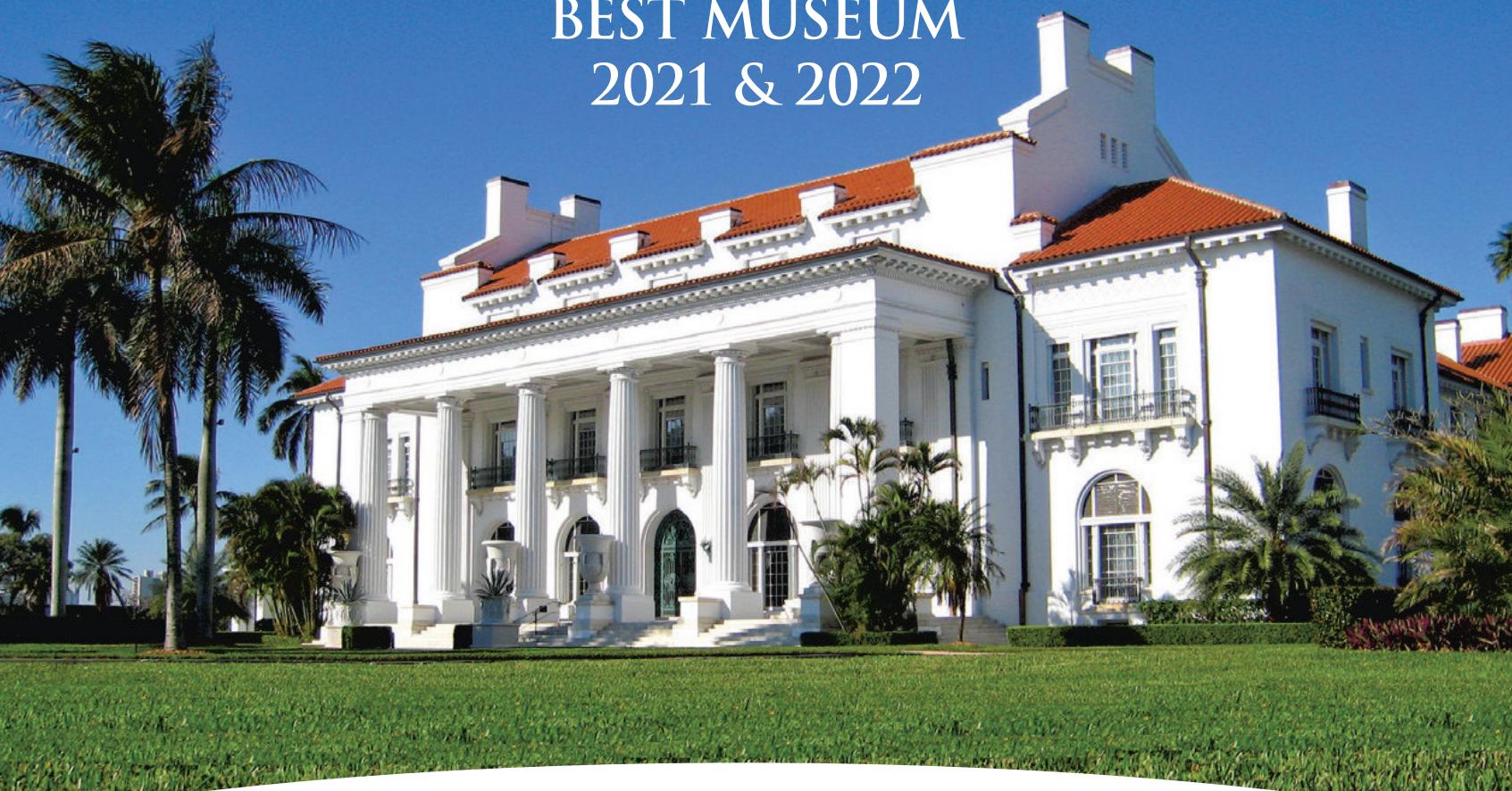


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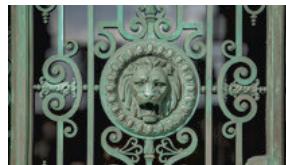
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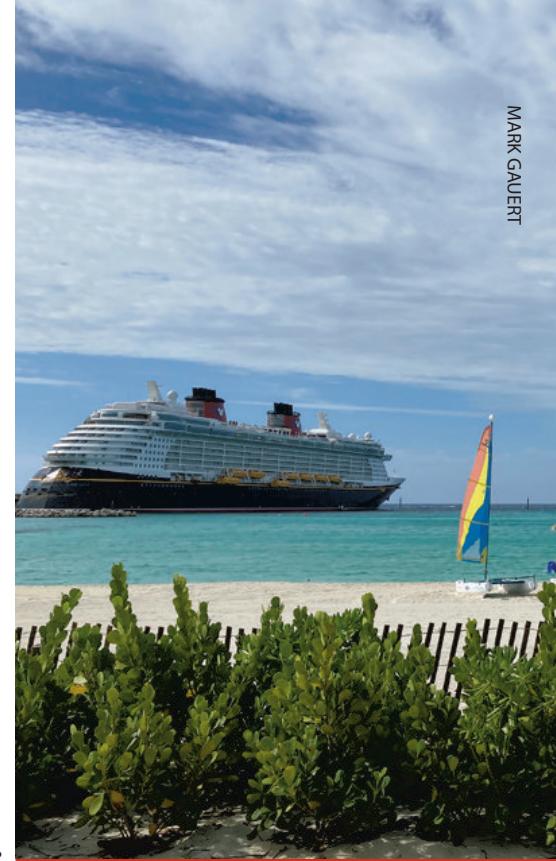
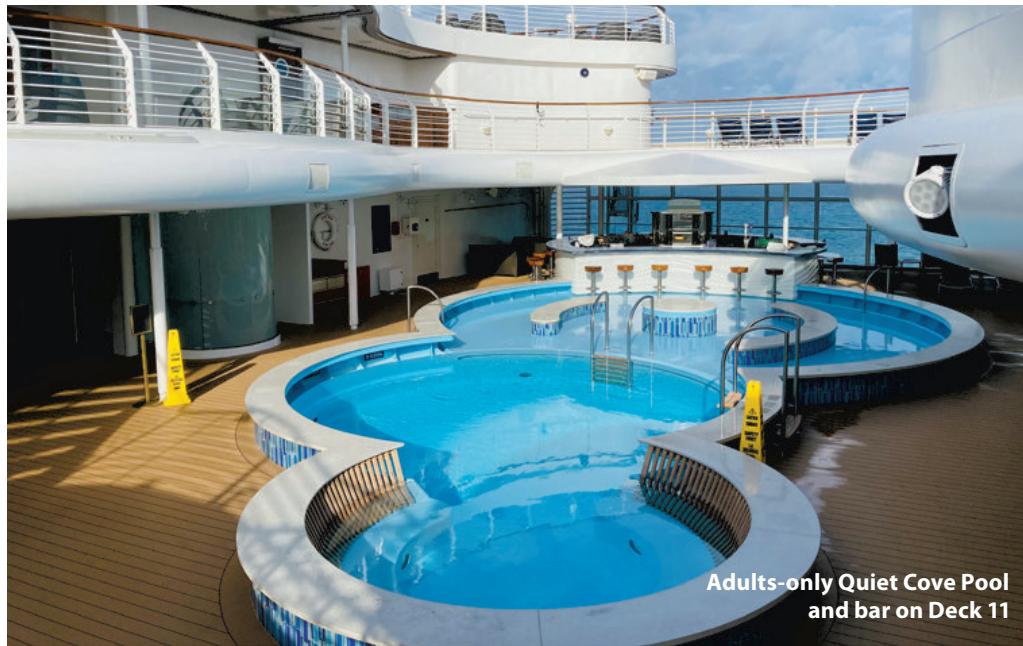


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I didn't even mind all the kids in the audience with their parents for *Beauty and the Beast* in The Walt Disney Theater on Deck 3. It was a beautiful, Broadway-ready show – not beastly at all. Afterwards, I watched the kids file out of the theater, dressed up as pirates and princesses, meeting Mickey, Minnie and other Disney characters.

And I was suddenly awash with happy memories of taking my own kids to do the same. *What was happening to me?* I felt like the Beast turning back into the man in the show I'd just seen.

When we docked the next morning at Castaway Cay, Disney's private island in the Bahamas, I had one last flashback: to the raft over to Tom Sawyer's Island in Frontierland my mom took me to when I was 5 years old. I couldn't wait to do everything here, either. Snorkel in the clear lagoon, watch kids play on the 2,400-square-foot floating water slide, go parasailing, go fishing, paddle a kayak, get some barbecue and a cold beer on the powdery-white beach, pedal a bike on an old airstrip to the adults-only Serenity Bay, follow a nature trail to the Observation Tower overlooking mangrove estuaries and aquamarine water, take the five-mile trail till it ended on the far tip of the island – and then turn back and do it all over again.

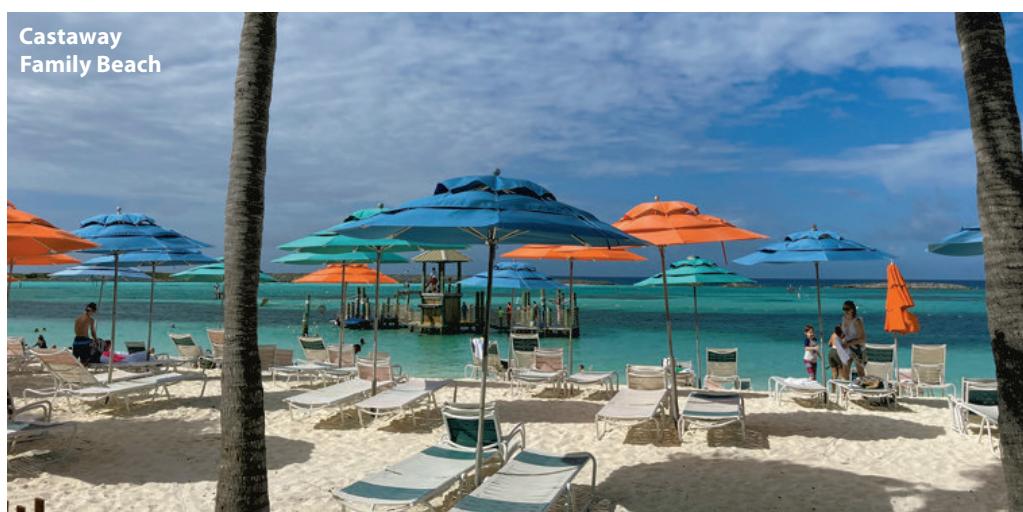
I don't think my mom could have kept up with me here, either. (She's 88 now, and I can probably still outrun her. I think.) But being there brought back more happy memories. I felt like fearsome food critic Anton Ego, melting after a taste from his childhood in Disney's *Ratatouille*.

I don't know if this is really the happiest place on Earth. But it made me happy being there, remembering happy memories from my childhood, and from raising my own children. Me, a mature, solo traveler, on a kid-centric cruise ship.

I know, I know. *Magic.*

I didn't want to go on a Disney Cruise. I was tired of Disney. Vowed I wouldn't go again until a grandkid begged me.

But I'm ready to go again now. With or without them.

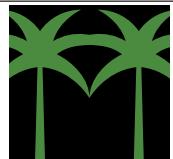


If you go

***Disney Dream* cruises from Miami**

Three-, four- and five-night Bahamian itineraries will begin this summer from PortMiami, starting with the *Dream's* inaugural cruise from Miami on June 7. Each cruise features a stop at Castaway Cay, Disney's private island in the Bahamas. Three- and four-night cruises will call on Nassau, Bahamas; five-night cruises will stop at either Grand Cayman or Cozumel, Mexico. One special five-night sailing will feature two stops at Castaway Cay, and a call on Nassau. Seven-night cruises – with a variety of stops – will be available in April 2023. Information, <https://disneycruise.disney.go.com/cruises-destinations/list/#miami-florida,disney-dream>.

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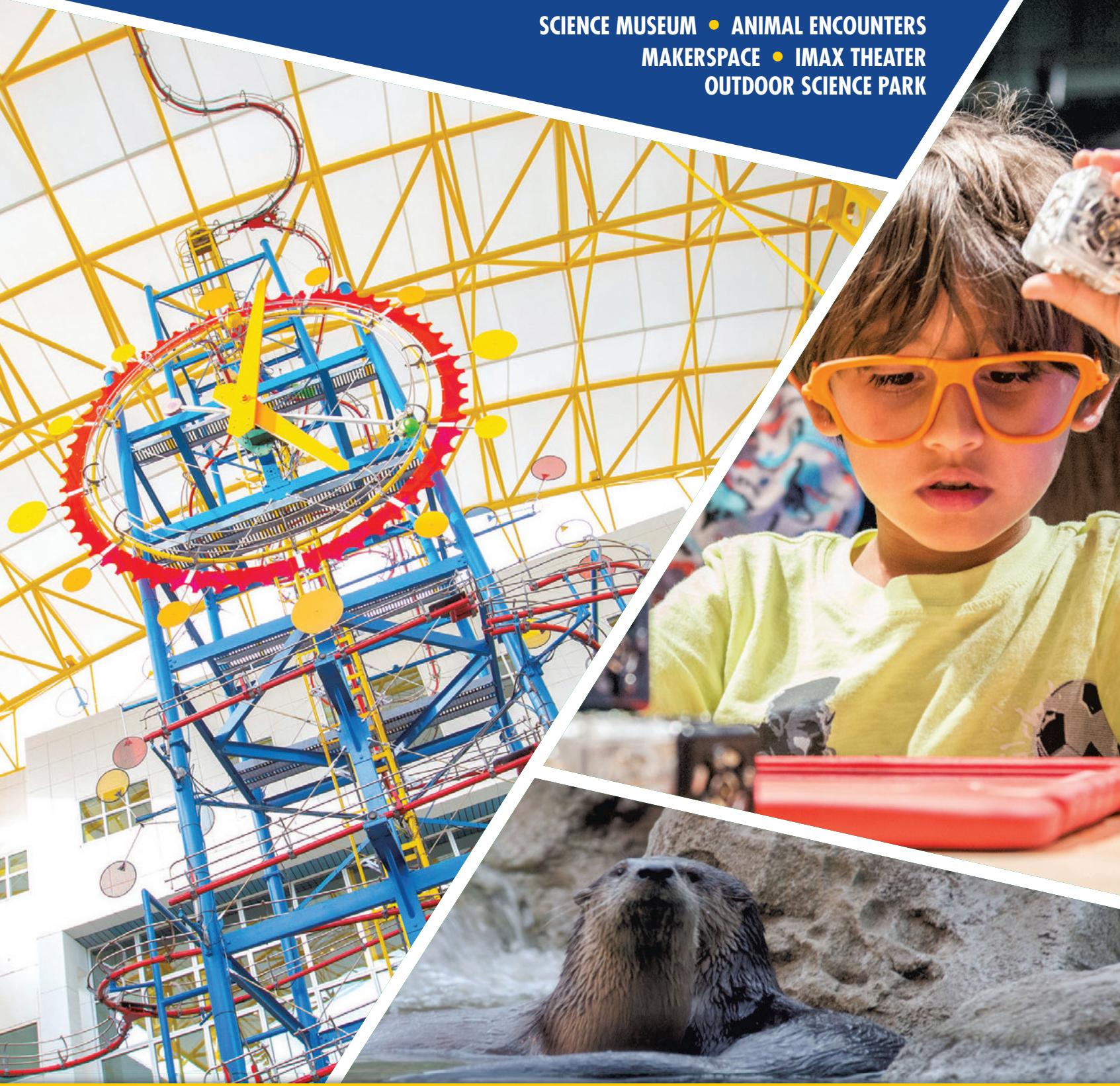
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Gators sun themselves at Gatorland

Snapping Gators

Gatorland provides up-close access to reptiles, birds with photographer pass program

By Patrick Connolly

One might think an alligator breeding marsh would be a precarious place for a bird to perch, but seeing Gatorland's rookery in action proves the exact opposite is true.

The Central Florida attraction, which bills itself as the "alligator capital of the world," contains a unique habitat created in 1991 that hosts dozens of gators, but also a handful of wading birds and their nests. This relationship can be beneficial for both species, as the giant reptiles can ward off egg-stealing critters like raccoons. And sometimes the gators get something in return.



"These birds build their nests, lay their eggs and raise their young above the gators. Gators and crocodiles ... [add] protection from predators looking to steal the baby birds," said Brandon Fisher, Gatorland's director of media relations. "Sometimes the older siblings push out the weaker siblings, even mom might push out her weaker offspring. The gators get a free meal every now and then."

Shutterbugs can get up-close access to Gatorland's avian and reptilian residents with the park's photographer pass. Offered on 10

select dates in March, April and May, the \$25 ticket provides birders and photographers early entry to the bird rookery and breeding marsh, plus the ability to explore the park after 10 a.m.

Visitors who take advantage of this program have the chance to capture great and snowy egrets as they nest, plus a variety of herons, ibises, wood storks and the occasional roseate spoonbills.

A recent morning visit yielded sights of baby great egrets who had recently hatched, plus turquoise-blue eggs in other nests. A





Anhingas perch in a tree at Gatorland

limpkin waded in the shallow shores of the marsh, looking for a snack, while a little blue heron and a common gallinule hung out nearby. Anhingas perched in trees and an Egyptian goose got a high-up vantage point from atop a covered pavilion.

Photographers can also get a “bird’s-eye view” from a three-story observation tower when looking out for all of the avian inhabitants of the Gatorland marsh. As a bonus, photographers may have the chance to capture images of active gators as well.

“Especially early in the morning [in March, April and May], we’re right into the breeding season for alligators. More than birds, you’re going to get some gator action, too,” Fisher said.

If you go

The Gatorland photography program dates this month are May 8, 13, 21 at 14501 S. Orange Blossom Trail, Orlando. Reservations must be made online at least 24 hours in advance at a cost of \$25 plus tax per person. *For more information, call the park’s “bird line” at 407-855-5496 ext. 233, email dannyperich@gatorland.com or visit gatorland.com.*

Find me @PConnPie on Twitter and Instagram or send me an email: pconnolly@orlandosentinel.com. For more fun things, follow @fun.things.orlando on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.



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The Jax Ale Trail is a collection of 24 breweries all contained in a portable passport



Flights of Fancy

Jacksonville's Ale Trail bills craft beer as a big reason to visit the River City

By Patrick Connolly

Jacksonville has a new reason to visit, and it's not the city's picturesque rivers, sandy beaches or the Jaguars.

Craft beer is now among the biggest tourism draws for the River City, with two dozen watering holes pouring stouts, IPAs, sours, Pilsners, lagers and more, many made in-house by brewers with a passion for beer.

The scene has expanded dramatically in the past several years, revitalizing neighborhoods in the process and drawing more visitors to Jacksonville in search of quality brews. The city's tourism bureau, Visit Jacksonville, has taken advantage of the trend, pointing visitors toward delicious beer with a physical "Jax Ale Trail" brewery passport, <https://www.visitjacksonville.com/jax-ale-trail/>, available at participating locations.

For ambitious craft-beer drinkers, the goal is to visit 24 breweries and get a stamp at each stop. Beer tourists with four stamps earn a koozie; those with eight get a T-shirt as well. A fully stamped passport can be exchanged for a "super-secret" prize.

"I've been with Visit Jacksonville since 2004. I don't think I could put my hand on any other thing that has been as successful as this," said Katie Mitura, chief marketing officer for Visit Jacksonville. "The best part about it is it's not a huge investment but it is something that people want."

Brewery tourism

When picturing towns known for craft breweries, Denver or Asheville might come to mind. Broc Flores, a Navy veteran who co-owns Fishweir Brewing Company with his wife, Stacey, got to experience a number of beer destinations when he was on active duty.

"I went all over the country, lived in some great beer towns," he said. "We moved to Jacksonville from San Diego, which had 234 breweries when we left. Charleston has 40-plus, Asheville is the same way."

Fishweir Brewing Co. in Jacksonville's Murray Hill neighborhood



Engine 15 Brewing Co. is a stop along the Trail



Flight of four sours and IPAs at Fishweir Brewing Co.

Flores and Mitura agreed that when they travel, they seek out the best breweries or even fly to destinations because of the craft-beer scene.

"When you travel, you don't want to go to just one brewery. If you like to drink beer, you want to see all the different ones," Mitura said. "I want us to be a beer city."

Jacksonville has looked to break into the scene and largely succeeded, at least in part due to the promotion of the Jax Ale Trail passport.

"Any given month, between 55-70 percent of the people who complete the ale trail are from out of town," Mitura said. "With the economic driving of that, it makes it so worthwhile to us. Not only are we known for our beer, but we were also ranked as a top beer city this year."

Fodor's Travel ranked Jacksonville number 11 among top craft beer cities in the United States, which found the Florida city worthy of sharing the list with the likes of Portland, Atlanta, Pittsburgh, Asheville and Los Angeles.

Crafting the scene

The craft beer destination visitors can now experience when they visit Jacksonville had humble beginnings.

Bold City Brewery first opened its doors in 2008, ushering in a new era of craft beer for Jacksonville, and it still stands as the city's oldest taproom. Some of Bold City's cans are found far from Jacksonville in stores such as Publix or Total Wine.

Institution Ale Works followed suit and opened in 2010, then the ale trail was established at the end of 2014.

"In seven years, we went from seven to 24 breweries on the trail," Mitura said.

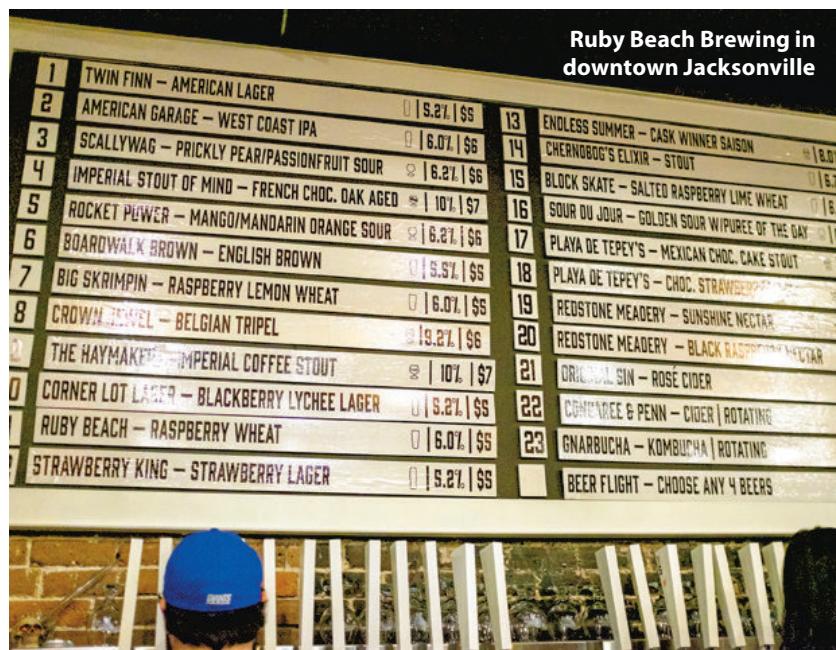
Though two dozen breweries might sound like a lot, each watering hole has specialties and a unique atmosphere.

"We focus on creativity and we focus on some fun sours with the barrel-aged program. Lazy River is our best-seller, which is a really good, easy-drinking German-style Pilsner," Flores said. "It's all over the city, and it's a great beer. We also have the 'Bait & Switch,' which is a coffee blonde."

Flores also gave kudos to Southern Swells, a Jacksonville Beach-area brewery known for their IPAs; and to Reve Brewing for their stouts.

One of the benefits of breweries is that they get people into neighborhoods they might not otherwise have a chance to visit.

"The breweries are all so uniquely different and give you a different flavor. If you came and you stayed downtown in Riverside or San Marco and you explored those neighborhoods, then came over to Springfield or Murray Hill, that's one trip," Mitura said. "But we also have a beach, and it's the perfect surfer beach town."



An enthusiastic craft beer enthusiast himself, Flores opened Fishweir in late 2018 and jumped into the trend at a time when many restaurants and bars want to carry local craft beer.

"A rising tide lifts all boats," he said. "The more beer we create in the city, and the more people that get interested in it, the more business for everybody."

Tales from the trail

My pilgrimage for pints took me to several ale trail stops, which started with sipping a flight at Fishweir.

Light, tropical notes were revealed in tasting the Beermosa fruited sour, the sweet Level Up Mango and Guava sour, the hoppy and earthy Third Trip Farmhouse IPA and the citrusy King of the Hill Hazy IPA.

A drive across the St. Johns River takes brewery tourists to Jacksonville's historic San Marcos neighborhood, home to Aardworf Brewing Co., the Beer:30 "craft beer emporium" and Tepeyolot Cerveceria.

As one of Jacksonville's newest breweries, Tepeyolot began brewing its own beer at the end of last year and also serves up tasty tacos, burritos, nachos and more. Try the "gringo quesadilla" on a flour tortilla, alternating with sips of the Montezuma pilsner or one of the brewery's IPAs.

In downtown Jacksonville, Ruby Beach Brewing serves as a hub for nightlife and a stop for Florida Theater patrons complete with a warmly lighted outdoor beer garden. Explore nearly two dozen taps serving up suds from a variety of craft breweries, some local. A flight of four yielded tastes of a raspberry wheat beer, a tangy fruited sour and even some mead.

Heading east of the city toward Jacksonville Beach, Engine 15 Brewing Co. provides a convenient stop before hitting the shores of the Atlantic. Find a hearty selection of beers made in-house including the J'velle lager, the Captain AHOP IPA and other stouts, sours and curious creations. In addition, Engine 15 has plenty of bites for munching, with Cuban sandwiches, wraps, empanadas, flatbreads and more on the menu.

Given another day, this tired traveler would have opted to check out some of the beachfront destinations for craft beer. Before or after digging toes in the sand or swimming in the sea, check out Southern Swells, Green Room and Ink Factory, or head a bit farther north to find Reve Brewing.

Find me @PConnPie on Twitter and Instagram or send me an email: pconnnelly@orlandosentinel.com. For more fun things, follow @fun.things.orlando on Instagram, Facebook and Twitter.

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See, **Make**, Do

St. Pete's vibrant art scene beckons with museums, markets, macarons

By Jane Schneider

As a teenager growing up on the Gulf Coast in the 1970s, St. Petersburg was, um, how to put it ... Dead? With its endless summer weather and low cost of living, the city was retiree nirvana.

"Do you remember those days?" I ask potter and art shop owner Lynn Merhige, a native Floridian whose Lebanese grandfather settled here in 1917.

"Of course I do!" she said. "You know what they used to say, don't you? St. Pete was for the newlywed and nearly dead."

We share a knowing laugh.

For many years, residents mingled with tourists who visited St. Pete to loll on its beaches and stroll Webb's City "World Famous Drug Store," a retail mecca that, by the 1950s, spanned 77 departments across 10 city blocks. Known for its crazy flash sales and kitschy come-ons (think piano-playing ducks) James Earl "Doc" Webb kept flocks of customers coming back for more by offering a fabulous variety of merchandise at rock-bottom prices. And by flocks, I mean 300,000 visitors a week shopped here during the store's halcyon days.

Gradually, however, the crowds thinned and by 1979, Webb's had found its way to the dustheap while the city pondered its pensioner persona. It needed something more to offer visitors than sunshine and shuffleboard, but what?

Opportunity knocked in 1980 when business leaders learned that the Salvador Dali collection amassed by Reynolds and Eleanor Morse was in search of a permanent home. Drumming up municipal and state support, the city procured the dazzling assemblage which included iconic paintings, sculptures, drawings and manuscripts. The Salvador Dali Museum opened its doors in 1982 to much fanfare, though one couldn't help but wonder whether the quirky surrealist would really be a fit for sleepy St. Pete.

But how does the saying go: Build it and they will come? Indeed.

Dali museum



James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art

Explore the Waterfront Arts District

Today, St. Pete boasts a flourishing cultural scene that has steadily grown to include seven art museums and more than 50-plus gallery and studio spaces. Not only can you appreciate art here, you can make art, too.

The Dali heralded the city's resurgence with a move in 2011 from its original home — a converted marine storage warehouse — to a molten glass-enveloped jewel box that graces the waterfront. As I stroll along downtown's palm-lined streets, I consider my choices: There are the glass sculptures of the Chihuly Collection, the diverse modern glassworks of the Imagine Museum and the expansive holdings of the Museum of Fine Arts.

The James Museum of Western and Wildlife Art is impossible to miss from the street, as it looks like a colorful slot canyon erupted through the sidewalk. The towering, buff-colored sandstone walls are beautiful and jut at sharp, interesting angles before reaching a huge waterfall.

The entry hall features meticulously rendered bronzes of Native American chiefs and mountain men, giving a nod to our nation's early history. Although I expect to see my old friends Remington and Russell, the work here is decidedly fresh with a focus on living artists,

some of whom are Native Americans with inspired interpretations of Western themes.

The newly opened Museum of the American Arts and Crafts Movement explores another interesting chapter of history. It is also the first museum dedicated to telling the American arts and crafts story. The exquisitely curated collection houses many fine examples from the movement, from jewel-toned lamps and tailored oaken furniture to hammered copper vessels and rich, colorful tiles. Actually, the \$90 million building is a work of art in itself, with a sculptural spiral staircase that seems to float in the central atrium.

I scan downtown from a third-story window and notice how St. Pete's low-slung skyline is morphing, as stylish condos and high-rise apartments reseed city blocks like so many dandelions. Collectively, these changes have brought about a cultural renaissance as the city pulses to a younger, hipper beat.

That energy is attracting people like Phillip Ingram, the new owner of Llonni's Sandwiches on Central Avenue. The 33-year-old moved to the Gulf Coast two years ago after living and working virtually all over the state as a chef and restaurant manager.

"I enjoy the city's atmosphere," he said. "St. Pete also has my favorite park system. Have you seen all the parks we have along the bay? That's a rare find."



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Cassis Opera Cake

Food and Fresh Air

Cyclists and strollers take full advantage of the many trails that weave through downtown, some paralleling the park-like waterfront, others nosing through picturesque neighborhoods dotted with charming Mediterranean Revival bungalows, an architectural style that took root during Florida's 1920s land boom. You won't spot many chain restaurants downtown either, as the food scene remains decidedly local.

A friend suggests we sample street food at the Saturday Morning Market at Al Lang Stadium, where shoppers pick up locally grown vegetables and handcrafted goods. The air is fragrant with spicy aromas from vendors selling Mexican empanadas and French crêpes. But a market regular swears by the Ethiopian cuisine, so I heed her advice and dig into a plate of steaming lentils. I'm glad it includes a slice of *injera*, an Ethiopian flat bread, better to scoop the savory goodness from plate to mouth.

Fortified, I find my way to tony Beach Street along the bay front, accompanied by a flock of wild parrots that squawk loudly overhead. I pass several busy outdoor cafes before dipping into the bakery at Cassis St. Pete, a popular European brasserie. Here I encounter an edible work of art. It is Cassis' Opera Cake, a multilayered pastry that's a light yet sophisticated mix of mocha, praline and chocolate ganache. Macarons are also a specialty here and neither should be missed.



Charlie Parker of Charlie Parker Pottery



Let's Make Art

If making art is more your style, take a 10-minute drive west of downtown to the Warehouse Arts District. One of Florida's most renowned glass artists, Duncan McClellan, helped to rejuvenate this gritty neighborhood, originally home to small manufacturers. Once business moved on, the buildings left behind were affordable and ideal studio space. Duncan McClellan Gallery relocated from Tampa in 2009 and others, like Zen Glass Studio & Gallery and Charlie Parker Pottery, soon followed suit.

I drop in during the Second Saturday ArtWalk (galleries open 5 to 9 p.m.) and watch co-owner Joshua Poll of Zen Glass fire up his torch. Under his watchful eye, a golf ball-sized bulb of glass slowly morphs into a thing of beauty. "We get people who come from all over the world," Poll said. Tonight, he'll teach couples the ancient craft.

Nancy and Charlie Parker of Charlie Parker Pottery have also played a role in the city's transformation. Charlie's been teaching pottery in St. Pete for more than 30 years, "but in the past decade, the scene has really exploded." His huge studio is inspiring, with potter's wheels and work benches and shelves filled with ceramics. Many students come by each day to throw and glaze their pots, some even sell their work in the adjoining gallery.

Sculptor Randal Colbath discovered the district five years ago and relocated from Sarasota. Now he's busy transforming his home and studio to showcase his handsome wood sculptures.

In short, it's an exciting time for the city. Far from being the sleepy place I remember, St. Pete is crafting a new identity for itself, one that offers much to see, make and do.



Joshua Poll, Zen Glass Studio & Gallery

palm trees & coastal breezes



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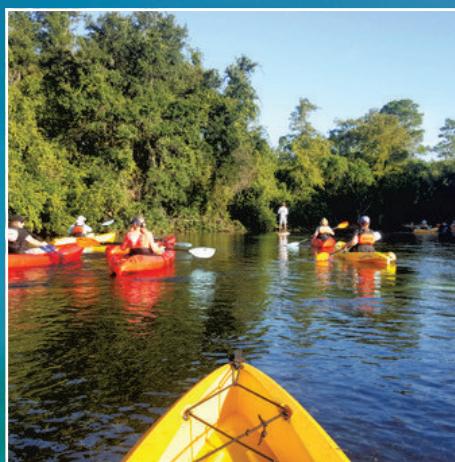
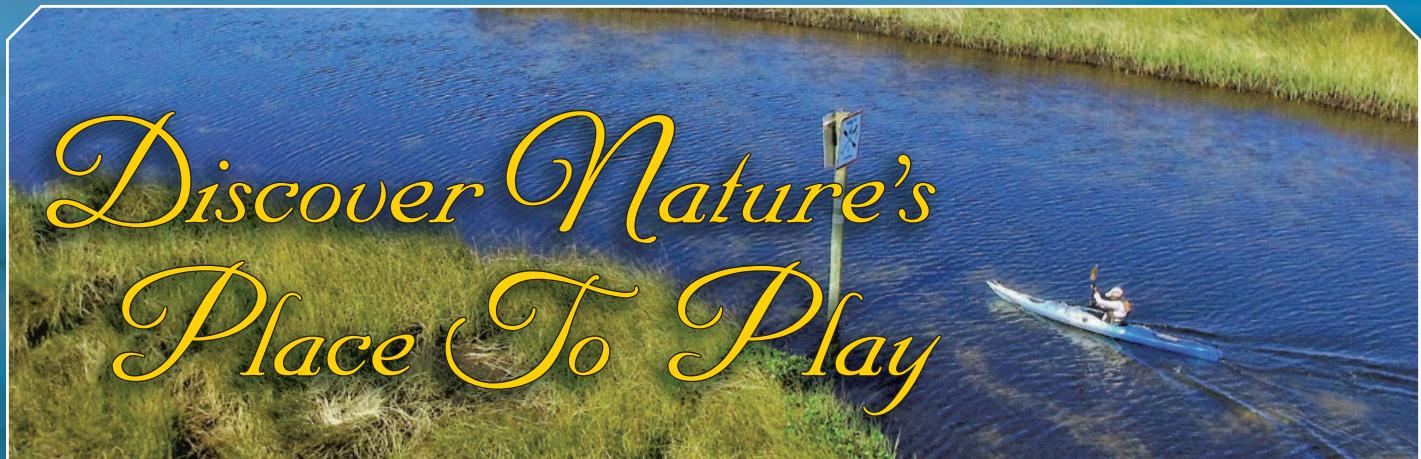


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POST CARDS

From the Caribbean Basin

The picture postcard is in trouble. “[They’re] the latest endangered commodities being affected by twenty-somethings who prefer to take selfies over buying and mailing the scenic ‘wish you were here’ sentiment,” *MarketWatch* reports.

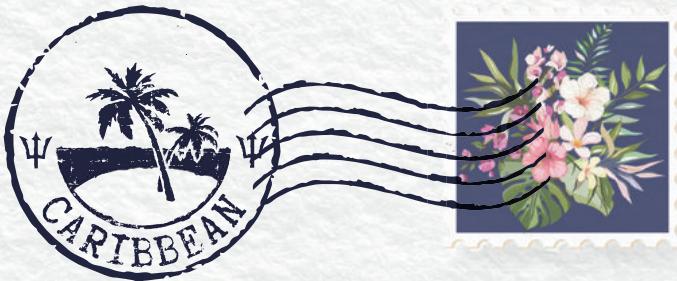
It’s hard to even find picture postcards these days. The racks of them we used to see in front of touristy spots seem to have disappeared – and that was true even before COVID lockdowns moved them out of reach in the interest of public health. When was the last time you remember getting one in the mail? (When was the last time you remember getting *anything* interesting in the mail, but that’s another story.)

The postcard is in trouble despite the fact the word “postcard” contains two of today’s most popular words: *post*, which everyone knows from social media; and *card*, which everyone knows because everyone has one (especially when shopping touristy spots.)

Content is still supreme, of course, and while the postcard may be in risk of cancellation, we say there’ll always be demand for the “wish you were here’s” we used to write on postcards – even if we’re not writing many posts on, well, cards anymore.

Here are some postcards from recent trips into the newly reopening islands of the Caribbean basin, which left us wishing we were there all over again.

By Mark Gauert



**WISH
YOU
WERE
HERE**

Greetings from

MARGARITAVILLE BEACH RESORT NASSAU





Why we wish you were here

Because from the balcony of these comfortable, less-than-a-year-old rooms – all facing Nassau Harbour – you could spend hours just watching cruise ships, tugboats, Royal Bahamian Navy vessels, superyachts, jet skis arrive and depart. It's such a good show you might even forget the two-acre Fins Up waterpark – featuring 1,000-foot lazy river, waterslides and pools – on the ground floor below. You might also forget you're just steps away from such Bay Street attractions as Nassau's Straw Market, Rawson Square (live music and craft bazaar), The Bahamas Rum Cake Factory, the small (but exquisite) National Art Gallery of the Bahamas, John Watling's Distillery (free sample with tour!) or the how-did-they-do-that wonder of the Queen's Staircase, a short calorie-burn up the hill.



COURTESY OF MARGARITAVILLE BEACH RESORT AND MARK GAUERT



Overheard

"Hello, front desk? There's a cruise ship in my room!"

COCKTAILS

THE GOOD LIFE
Casamigos Blanco Tequila,
Grand Marnier Orange Liqueur,
Earl Grey Agave, Lime Juice 16

What's drinking?

We could go all Fin with a "Who's to Blame" margarita or a "Five O'Clock Somewhere" boat drink, but we'll take "The Good Life" (Casamigos Blanco Tequila, Grand Marnier Orange Liqueur, Earl Grey Agave and lime juice), especially around sunset overlooking the marina at JWB Prime Steak and Seafood. Sip and consider what a well-named beverage this is.



What's cooking?

There's a Cheeseburger in Paradise on the menu here, of course, at the Vacation Café. (Waistline away again in Margaritaville.) But on a recent, unseasonably 59-degree morning, our favorite dish was a steaming bowl of cinnamon oatmeal and raisins. Oatmeal in Paradise.



Graycliff Sky Bar at Margaritaville

Don't miss

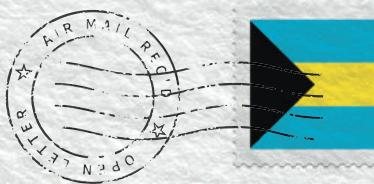
Graycliff Sky Bar, on the 10th floor. Come for the views of Nassau Harbour, stay for the fine sipping rums and *Casablanca*-caliber mix of international clientele – including the occasional Bahamian official in full uniform – and the odd American with a Shazam app trying to I.D. the DJ's (mostly Jamaican) playlist. (Random sample: *Ravin* by Popcaan, *Hey Sexy Lady* by Shaggy Feat and *Wine Pon Di Ting* by DeMarco.) All of this swirling around a bar bathed in smoky blue-violet light – and clouds of cigar-smoke mystery – late, late into the night. Here's looking at you, kids.

Could miss

If you are not in a mood to mingle with the *Casablanca*-caliber crowd on the 10th floor, and just want some sleep after multiple Fins Up waterslides, the aforementioned island songs wafting from Graycliff Sky Bar will still find you through the walls of your room late, late into the night. Oh, and we also missed having hot water in the room on two of the three-night stay. The staff was nice and eager to try – and keep trying! – to fix it, which they did just in time for departure. Fortunately, there was plenty of warm water – and relaxing calm – at St. Somewhere Spa on the second floor.



St. Somewhere Spa

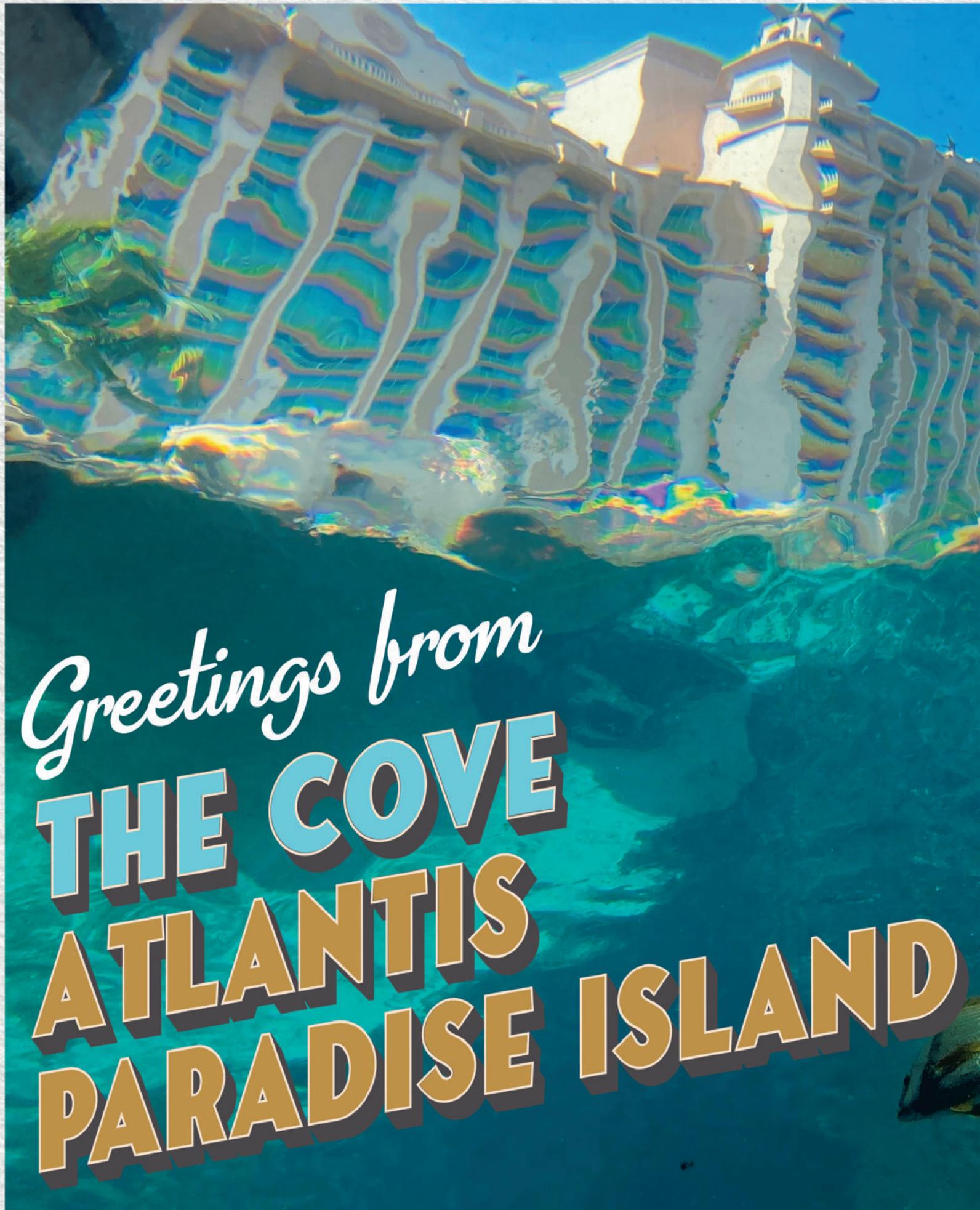


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2 Bay St., Nassau, the Bahamas

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View of Atlantis and Paradise Island from The Cove



COURTESY OF THE COVE ATLANTIS AND PARADISE ISLAND AND MARK GAUERT

Why we wish you were here

Because you won't stop wondering, "how'd they do *that*?" As in, How'd they keep all *that* glass in the jaw-dropping aquarium – full of manta rays, sharks, smalltooth sawfish – clean? (Divers in scuba gear, who keep scrubbing it as the fish swim by.) Or where did they get all *that* pink paint? Or how much fun is *that* 141-acre water park? (For the record, it is *that* much fun). The Atlantis resort is so big, so pink, so over-the-top-everywhere-with-everything, it's even the focus of a lot of the art at The National Art Gallery of the Bahamas.



Overheard

"How'd they do *that*!?"

What's cooking?

You can tell the quality of a restaurant by the quality of its roast chicken, Julia Child famously said. We're guessing she would have loved the quality of the Jerk Chicken at Fish by José Andrés at Atlantis. Also coming out of the kitchen here: substitute the word "Conch" for "Shrimp" in *Forrest Gump* and you'd get Bubba Blue ticking off Conch Scorched, Conch Grilled, Cracked Conch, Conch with Tropical Salad, Conch Fritters ... and so Conch on. Oh, and if you don't know what to order from the menu at Nobu on the other side of the resort, just go with the chef knows-what-you-want-to-order *omakase* menu. You're welcome.



Jerk chicken and Kalik
at Fish by Jose Andres

Don't miss

Atlantis is so big, so pink, so over-the-top-everywhere-with-everything it's impossible to miss anything.



What's drinking?

Bahamian Sky Juice (1 ½ oz. gin, ¾ oz. sweetened condensed milk, ½ oz. coconut water and lime). Shake everything but the lime, pour over ice, add lime and serve. At least we think that's the recipe. Our notes got a little watermarked in the beach cabana research station. Or possibly Sky Juice marked.

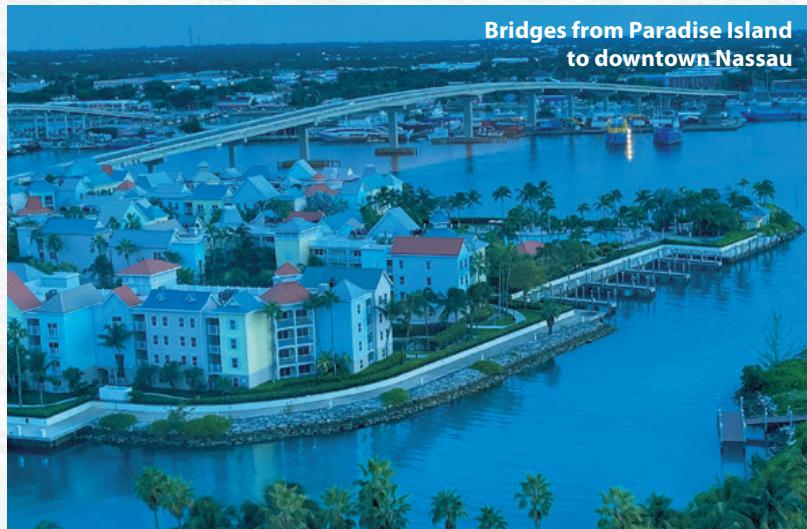
A postcard-style advertisement for The Cove Atlantis Paradise Island. It features a circular "AIR MAIL" stamp with "PARADISE ISLAND" and "BAHAMAS" and a blue arrow pointing right with the word "GO".

The Cove Atlantis Paradise Island

**One Casino Drive, Suite 41,
Paradise Island, the Bahamas**

www.atlantisbahamas.com

Six hundred suites overlooking Aquaventure, a 141-acre water park; beach, 30,000-square-foot Mandara Spa, Atlantis Kids Adventures, teen club, 18-hole golf course, open-air marine habitat, with over 50,000 marine animals from 250 species; casino, Marina Village with dockage for yachts up to 220 feet, 14-acre Dolphin Cay marine-mammal habitat and numerous lounges and fine dining restaurants.



Could miss

The feeling you're in a beautiful bubble here — separated, actually, by bridges on Paradise Island - from the rest of the Bahamas. Don't become so blissed out here you miss getting to know the islands, and the islanders, too. Shake the sand out of your shoes, walk across the bridge and explore a little. If nothing else, take a taxi over to The National Art Gallery of the Bahamas, and see how Bahamian artists see Atlantis, depicted in many media.



Hyatt Regency Aruba beachfront

Greetings from
ARUBA





Hyatt Regency Aruba grounds

Why we wish you were here

Because of this breezy, comfortable and friendly resort's central location on Aruba's famed Palm Beach, a Caribbean ramblas of seaside sights, music and fine dining. Splash into the pool from the two-story waterslide, swim up to the bar (try the Diamond Sangria) or get a cabana with a thatch umbrella – complete with food and drink service – on a white-sand beach that will leave you wondering, how come our sand and water don't look like this?

What's cooking?

Cook Jaeger Croes, who grew up on Aruba, raved about the Sea Bass at the resort's restaurant, Ruinas del Mar – and it was a locally source masterpiece, served with coconut basmati rice, red bell pepper, asparagus, fennel, cilantro, ginger and lime. But if you're going for just one dish before going back to the airport, he recommended the Land & Sea, featuring a 6 oz. butter-poached lobster, 12-oz New York steak, sweet potato gratin and seasonal vegetables. When in doubt, always get what the cook recommends.



What's drinking?

Biba Dushi (Aruba's Battle of the Bartenders winner, 2017.)

*1 oz. Vodka
1/2 oz. Ginger Liquor
1/2 oz. Guava Purée
3 oz. Pineapple Juice
1/4 oz. Fresh Lime Juice*

Combine the ingredients, add ice and shake until well mixed. Pour into a seashell-shaped cocktail glass and serve.

Biba Dushi, by the way, means "living the sweet life" in Papiamento, the local language of Aruba. To which we say, especially after a couple of these, *mashi danki* – "thank you very much."

Don't miss

The complimentary SnappyScreen spinning sun-tan lotion-application booth, located on the beach. Just select your SPF (15, 30 or 40) on the touch-screen control, step into the wood-lined booth, close your eyes and let the machine spray on the lotion as you spin. Who said saying safe in the sun wasn't fun?



Could miss

Your plane back if you fall asleep in the cabana by the beach. Seriously, it's that Chill – which also happens to be the name of the local beer.



Overheard

"Come back the day after tomorrow, we'll make ceviche!" – cook Jaeger Croes, wrapping up his daily beachfront cooking experience at the resort. Today was guacamole – which was, admittedly, pretty easy on people who are vacationing from having to cook at home. The ceviche is probably the hardest class he teaches, he says. He uses locally sourced grouper, cut into small cubes, dipped in lime juice and, in three minutes, *voila*. Important lessons to remember when the vacation's over.



Aruba Hyatt Regency Aruba Resort Spa & Casino

J.E. Irausquin Blvd 85, Noord, Aruba

www.hyatt.com/en-US/hotel/aruba/hyatt-regency-aruba-resort-spa-and-casino/aruba

The 12-acre resort's 359 rooms and suites overlook Aruba's famed Palm Beach, pools and lush tropical grounds. Open-air lobby, three-level pool complex, two-story waterslide, ZoiA Spa with fitness center, tennis courts, Camp Hyatt for kids, sundry and pool/beachwear stores, casino, adults-only Trankilo pool with 10 outdoor private cabanas; nine meeting rooms, nine food and beverage options.



Greetings from
**NASSAU
NEW PROVIDENCE ISLAND,
THE BAHAMAS**



Why we wish you were here

Because the Bahamian capital has reopened, with all its former vibrancy. Cruise ships ply the aquamarine waters of Nassau Harbour, disembarking thousands of visitors each day onto Bay Street. Live music spills out of Rawson's Square; taxis double park in front of The Bahamas Rum Cake Factory; a man in Junkanoo attire greets visitors to The Queen's Staircase, saying "Welcome to the islands – I am the custodian here." (Maybe he is). Visitors line up for a free tour – and sample – at John Watling's Distillery, where 40-proof bottles of rum share shelf space with 70-proof bottles of hand sanitizer also produced on site. (Choose wisely.)



What's drinking?

The Bahama Grammy, said to have been served first at Nassau's Pink Elephant Club in 1963. John Watling's Distillery claims to follow the original recipe, using amber rum, coffee liqueur, coconut rum, Gun Cay 151-proof rum, pineapple juice, lime juice and two dashes of Grenadine. Fortunately, the walk back to Bay Street is downhill.



What's cooking?

I told the tuxedoed waiter at Nassau's venerable Graycliff Restaurant I couldn't decide between Butternut Squash Soup – the "Specialite du Chef" – or Graycliff Style Conch Chowder. "Conch chowder," he said, before I could even get the word "chowder" out of my mouth. He was right. So right I decided to forgo "Graycliff's famous soufflé" (Chocolate, Grand Marnier, Banana, Guava, Strawberry, Coconut Rum) and get another bowl of chowder for dessert.





Don't miss

The National Art Gallery of the Bahamas, in historic Villa Doyle on West and West Hill Streets. I looked around the recent exhibition, "Medicine & Memory," about public health in the Bahamas, and realized I was the only person in the museum. I was embarrassed I had all the riches of this small, exquisite museum to myself. I couldn't believe my luck – or that none of the thousands of people from cruise ships that day had found their way here, too.

Overheard

"On March 15, 2020, COVID-19 silently crawled onto our shores.

Slow at first but soon fast moving. Lockdowns ensued. Travel halted. Businesses closed. Tourism ceased. Most tragically, the pandemic claimed the lives of many. May they rest in peace. ... But time passed and the Bahamas grew closer and closer to finding its compass. Its direction. A sense of normalcy." – Bahamian artist Arielle Rahming, from her *Readjusting the Cardinal North*, at The National Art Gallery of the Bahamas.



Could miss

The long line at U.S. passport control at Nassau's airport. When I got to the front of the slow-moving, zigzagging line (about an hour and 15 minutes), I told the officer I'd been in line so long I'd forgotten what I came for. She laughed. I think she'd heard that before.





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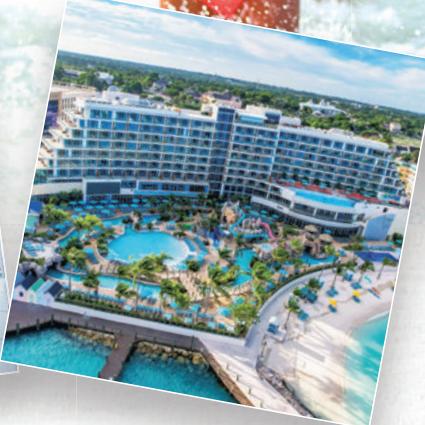


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SOUTH FLORIDA EVENTS

May 28-29
Miami Beach Air & Sea Show



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27-30 Home Design & Remodeling Show, Palm Beach County Convention Center, 650 Okeechobee Blvd., West Palm Beach, homeshows.net

28 29 Miami Beach Air & Sea Show, featuring watersports, display village, kids fun zone, live music by 3 Doors Down, pyro-parachute demonstrations from the U.S. Army Golden Knights Parachute Team and fireworks, usasalute.com

28-Sept. 5 Flotsam Fauna exhibit, featuring wildlife art made with flip flops and other debris picked up on South Florida shores. The sculptures are provided by Free Our Seas, a South Florida environmental organization. Flamingo Gardens, 3750 S. Flamingo Road, Davie, 954-473-2955, flamingogardens.org

June

1-5 Key West Pride, various events in Key West, gaykeywestfl.com/pride/

4 South Florida Smooth Jazz Festival, with Nestor Torres, Kayla Waters and others, Miramar Regional Park, 16801 Miramar Parkway, Miramar, southfloridasMOOTHjazzfestival.com

11 Miami Boat Rally, navigating around Miami, Key Largo and Islamorada, miamiboatrally.com

15-19 I Love Stock Island Festival, ilovestockisland.org

17 Viernes Culturales Arts and Culture Festival in Little Havana, 801 SW 15th Ave., Miami, 305-643-5500, viernesculturales.org

18 Downtown Hollywood ArtWalk, Hollywood Boulevard and Harrison Street, floridashollywood.org/ArtWalk

July

2 Vegan BBQ Party, featuring vegan food and drinks, vendors, art, entertainment and family fun zone. Huizenga Plaza, 32 E. Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, veganblockparty.com/vegan-bbq-party

SOUTHEAST FLORIDA AND THE KEYS

May

1 SunFest, waterfront art and music festival, 100 S. Clematis St., West Palm Beach, sunfest.com

1 Fort Lauderdale Air Show, featuring the U.S. Air Force Thunderbirds, Fort Lauderdale Beach, fortlauderdaleairshow.com

4-8 Key West Songwriters Festival, various events and venues, keywestsongwritersfestival.com

6-7 Boca Bacchanal Wine and Food Festival, presented by Boca Raton Historical Society, bocabacchanal.com

6 Outstanding Natural Area Day at Jupiter Lighthouse, includes 2-for-1 entry, 500 Captain Armour's Way, Jupiter, 561-747-8380, jupiterlighthouse.org

14 Stock Island Art Stroll, Stock Island Arts District, ilovestockisland.org

20 Viernes Culturales Arts and Culture Festival in Little Havana, featuring food vendors and live entertainment, 801 SW 15th Ave., Miami, 305-643-5500, viernesculturales.org

21 Ocean Brews & Blues Beer Fest, 149 SE 21st Ave., Deerfield Beach, deerfield-beach.com/1601/Ocean-Brews-Blues

21 Downtown Hollywood ArtWalk, featuring live entertainment and an artisan market, Hollywood Boulevard and Harrison Street, floridashollywood.org/ArtWalk/

9-10 Midsummer Adventure at
Fruit and Spice Park, 24801 SW
187th Ave., Homestead, 305-247-5727,
redlandfruitandspice.com

15 Viernes Culturales Arts and
Culture Festival in Little Havana,
801 SW 15th Ave., Miami, 305-643-5500,
viernesculturales.org

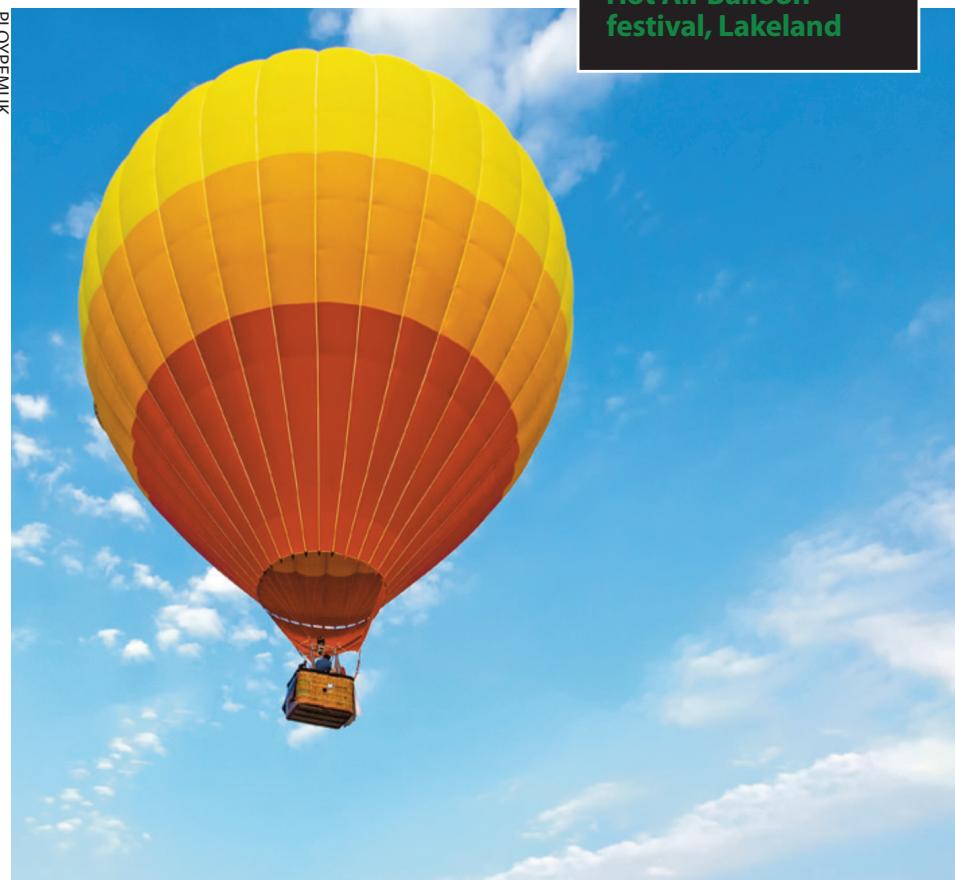
16 Downtown Hollywood Artwalk,
Hollywood Boulevard and Harrison
Street, floridashollywood.org/ArtWalk

22-24 Rolling Loud hip-hop music
festival, including Ye and other
performers, Hard Rock Stadium, 347 NW
27th Ave., Miami Gardens, rollingloud.com/miami

23-Aug. 14 International Ballet
Festival of Miami, various
events and venues, 786-747-1877,
internationalballetfestival.org

August

13 Sunrise Comic Con, Sunrise Civic
Center, 10610 W. Oakland Park Blvd.,
Sunrise, sunrisefl.gov



PLOYEEUK

19 Viernes Culturales Arts and
Culture Festival in Little Havana,
801 SW 15th Ave., Miami, 305-643-5500,
viernesculturales.org

20 Downtown Hollywood Artwalk,
Hollywood Boulevard and Harrison
Street, floridashollywood.org/ArtWalk/

September

1-5 Key West Brewfest,
keywestbrewfest.com

2-5 Home Design & Remodeling
Show, Broward Convention Center,
1950 Eisenhower Blvd., Fort Lauderdale,
homeshows.net

October

7-9 Redland International Orchid
Festival, Fruit and Spice Park, 24801
SW 187th Ave., Homestead, 305-247-5727,
redlandfruitandspice.com

May 6-8
Hot Air Balloon
festival, Lakeland

ORLANDO AND CENTRAL FLORIDA

May

6-8 Hot Air Balloon festival, with
entertainment, balloon and helicopter
rides, Lakeland Linder International
Airport, upupandawayflorida.com

14-15 Vero Beach Seafood
Festival, Riverside Park, 3258
Riverside Park Drive, Vero Beach,
verobeachseafoodfestival.com

21-22 Vero Beach Arts & Crafts
Festival, 3280 Riverside Park Drive,
Vero Beach, paragonfestivals.com/festival/vero-beach-arts-crafts-festival

June

19 Waterlily Celebration, McKee
Botanical Garden, 350 US Highway 1,
Vero Beach, 772-794-0601, mckeegarden.org

July

29-31 Caladium Festival, featuring art,
live entertainment, vendors and a car
and bike show, Stuart Park, 113 E. Interlake
Blvd., Lake Placid, caladiumfestival.org

August

19-21 MotoSurf American Games,
featuring motorized surfboards.
Lake Jackson, 355 W. Center Ave., Sebring,
motosurfamerica.com/event/sebring-fl

September

17-18 Daytona Home Show,
daytonabeachhomeexpo.com

19-20 Peace Film Festival,
peacefilmfest.org

SOUTH FLORIDA EVENTS

October

8-9 Autumn Art Festival, featuring Florida artists and live entertainment, Central Park in Winter Park, 407-599-3580, winterpark.org/autumn-art-festival

NORTHEAST FLORIDA

May

21 Festival Latino, 110 SE Watula Ave., Ocala, ocalamarion.com/events/latino-festival-downtown-ocala

26-29 Jacksonville Jazz Festival, featuring United States Air Force Airmen of Note and others, jacksonvillejazzfest.com

September

16-18 RiverFest on the St. Johns River, 904-413-0849, sailandsongpromotions.com

October

22-23 NAS Jax Air Show, NAS Jacksonville, nasjaxairshow.com

SOUTHWEST FLORIDA

May

7 Great Dock Canoe Race, featuring fun water events, 845 12th Ave. S. Naples, 239-825-1228

12 Evening on Fifth, featuring live entertainment on the sidewalks of the Fifth Avenue South shopping and dining district, 649 Fifth Ave. South, Naples, 239-692-8436, fifthavenuesouth.com

22 Naples Philharmonic and Naples Philharmonic Youth Orchestra, Artis-Naples, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples, artisnaples.org

27 Limón Dance Company with Naples Philharmonic, Artis-Naples, 5833 Pelican Bay Blvd., Naples, artisnaples.org

June

4 Naples Pride, featuring entertainment, vendors and fun for youngsters, Cambier Park, 755 Eighth Avenue S., Naples, 239-213-3058, naplespride.org

9 Evening on Fifth, Fifth Avenue South district, 649 Fifth Ave. South, Naples, 239-692-8436, fifthavenuesouth.com

11-12 St. Armands Circle Craft Festival, 411 St. Armands Circle, Sarasota, artfestival.com

18-19 Downtown Venice Craft Festival, 100-300 W. Venice Ave., Venice, artfestival.com

NORTHWEST FLORIDA AND THE PANHANDLE

May

5-8 Southern Shakespeare Festival, Tallahassee, southernshakespearefestival.org/free-festival/#

14-22 Soul of The Southside Arts and Humanities Festival, Lake Anita, Tallahassee, sosfesttllh.com

June

2-5 Gulf Coast Jam music festival, featuring Florida Georgia Line, Brooks & Dunn and others, gulfcoastjam.com

4-5 St. Pete Beach Corey Area Craft Festival, 595 Corey Ave., St. Pete Beach, artfestival.com

24-25 St. Pete Pride events, St. Pete Waterfront, stpetepride.org

June 24-25
St. Pete Pride events



LAZYLLAMA

July

9 Pensacola Beach Air Show, featuring U. S. Navy's flight demonstration squadron, Naval Air Station Pensacola, [Pensacola Beach, visitpensacola.com](http://visitpensacola.com)

September

23-25 Pensacola Seafood Festival, featuring food, art and artisan vendors, fun for youngsters and live entertainment, Historic Seville Square, 311 E. Government St., Pensacola, 850-433-6512, pensacolaseafoodfestival.com

October

3-9 Pirates of The High Seas, visitpanamacitybeach.com/pirates-of-the-high-seas

14-16 Clearwater Jazz festival, BayCare Ballpark, 601 N. Old Coachman Road, Clearwater, clearwaterjazz.com

—Patti Roth

5



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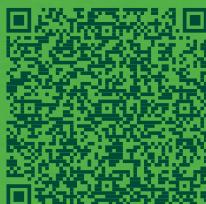
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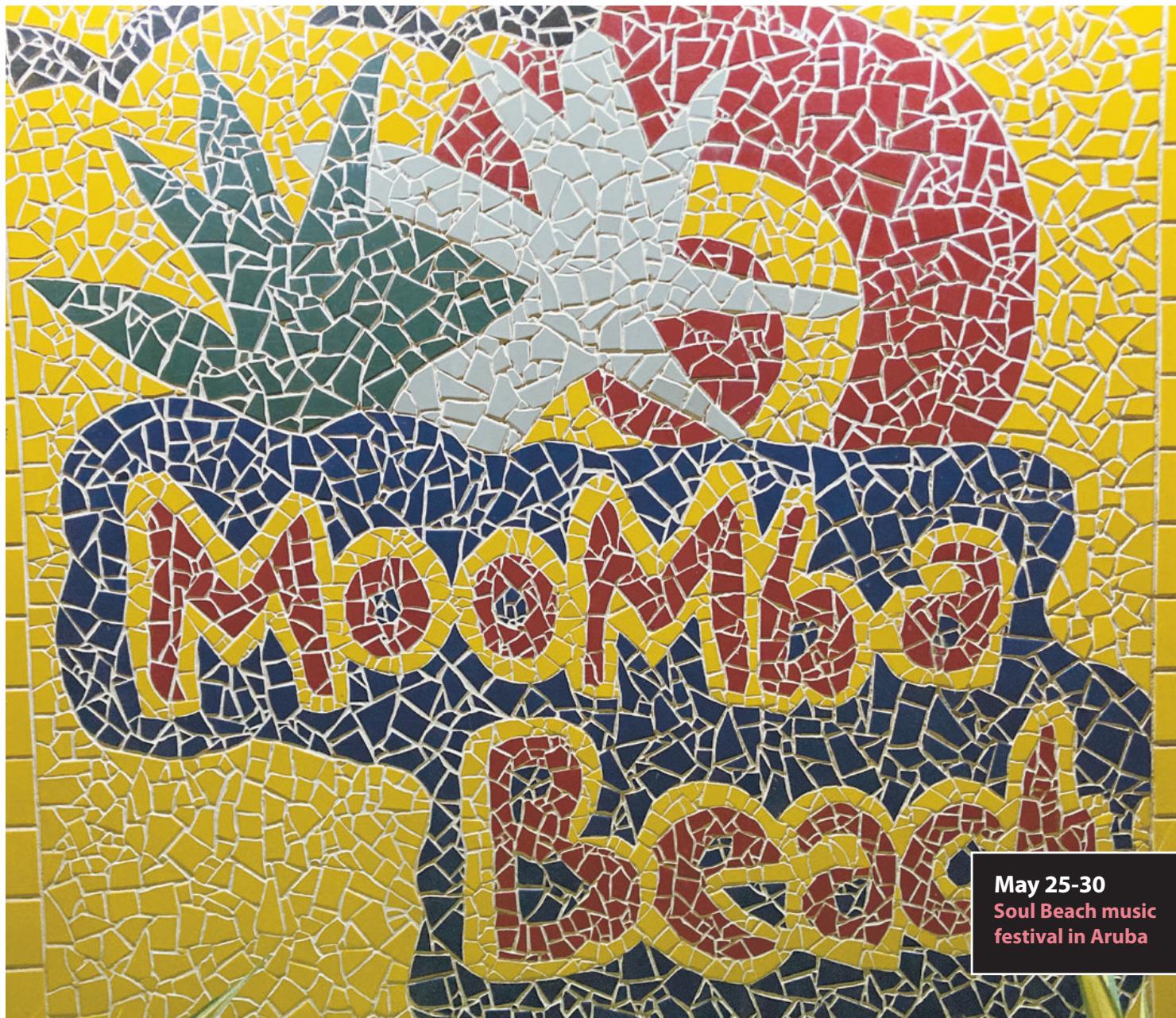


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May

1-6 Antigua Sailing Week,
sailingweek.com

13-18 Grenada Chocolate Fest,
grenadachocolatefest.com

25-30 Soul Beach music festival in Aruba, featuring Mary J. Blige and others, soulbeach.net

27-29 Festival de la Piña Paradisiaca, including live entertainment, vendors with pineapples and other foods, Lajas, Puerto Rico, discoverpuertorico.com/article/annual-festivals-puerto-rico

28 Puerto Rico Rum Festival,

Taste of Rum, includes rum and rum seminars, Old San Juan, tasteofrums.com

July

18-23 Reggae Sumfest music festival, Montego Bay, Jamaica, reggaesumfest.com

20-25 Summer Sizzle in Tortola, featuring parties, runway fashion shows and sailing excursions, summersizzlebvi.com

August

1 Grand Kadooment in Barbados, featuring festive bands and dancers decked out in sequins, feathers and jewels parading in the streets of St. Michael, ncf.bb/crop-over/

October

6-10 Barbados Jazz Excursion, Hilton Barbados Resort, 888-920-5299, barbadosjazzexcursion.com

—Patti Roth

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ingredients



The Perfect Arepa

Arepas Reina Pepiada

Ingredients

- 2 packets GOYA® Powdered Chicken Flavored Bouillon
- 2 boneless chicken, skinless chicken breasts (about 1 lb.)
- 1/2 cup GOYA® Mayonnaise
- 1/2 small yellow onion, finely chopped (about 1/2 cup)
- 1/4 cup GOYA® Guacamole, thawed
- 1 tsp. GOYA® Minced Garlic
- 2 tsp. finely chopped fresh cilantro
- GOYA® Adobo All-Purpose Seasoning with Pepper, to taste
- 1 avocado, finely chopped
- 2 cups GOYA® Masarepa – Pre-Cooked White Corn Meal
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 tsp. GOYA® Extra Virgin Olive Oil

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